

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 405

S.P. 129

In Senate, February 1, 2001

An Act to Account for Homeschooled Children Under the School Funding Formula and to Require the Maine Educational Assessment for Homeschooled Children.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MILLS of Somerset.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

2
4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §5021, sub-§8**, as enacted by PL 1999, c.
439, §1, is amended to read:

6 **8. Reimbursement for students enrolled in equivalent**
instruction programs. A school administrative unit is entitled
8 to receive state subsidy for any student who receives instruction
through one or more on-site academic courses from a public school
10 but is not a full-time student. A school administrative unit
that sends any tuition student to another school administrative
12 unit or to a private school approved pursuant to chapter 219 is
also entitled to receive state subsidy under this subsection.
14 The rate of reimbursement must be established in increments of
0.25 full-time equivalent status up to 1.0 full-time equivalent
16 status based on the average amount of time per day that a student
receives on-site academic services from a public school. School
18 administrative units shall keep an accurate count of the number
of students receiving on-site academic services and shall include
20 the full-time equivalency status of these students in the annual
count of students attending school in accordance with section
22 6004. A student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program at
home who does not receive instruction through on-site academic
courses is included in the funding formula for the school
administrative unit in which that student resides as equal to .25
26 of a full-time regular student for funding purposes.

28 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5021, sub-§9** is enacted to read:

30 **9. Examination of students enrolled in equivalent**
instruction programs. A student enrolled in an equivalent
32 instruction program, including home instruction, is required to
participate in the Maine Educational Assessment exams.

34 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §15605, sub-§2, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 1983,
36 c. 859, Pt. G, §§2 and 4, is amended to read:

38 A. The foundation per pupil operating rate ~~shall-be~~ is the
summary of actual local operating costs of all school
40 administrative units of the base year adjusted to the year
prior to the year of allocation divided by the average total
42 resident pupils in sections 5104 and 6004 educated at public
expense in kindergarten to grade 12 on April 1st and October
44 1st of the calendar year prior to the year of allocation.

46 (1) The elementary foundation per pupil operating rate
~~shall-be~~ is the summary of actual local operating costs
48 of all school administrative units of the base year
adjusted to the year prior to the year of allocation

2 divided by the average total resident pupils in
sections 5104 and 6004 educated at public expense in
4 kindergarten to grade 8 on April 1st and October 1st of
the calendar year prior to the year of allocation.

6 (2) The secondary foundation per pupil operating rate
shall-be is the summary of actual local operating costs
8 of all school administrative units of the base year
adjusted to the year prior to the year of allocation
10 divided by the average total resident pupils in
sections 5104 and 6004 educated at public expense in
12 grades 9 to 12 on April 1st and October 1st of the
calendar year prior to the year of allocation.

14 (3) A student enrolled in an equivalent instruction
16 program at home who is within the school administrative
18 unit as defined in section 1, subsection 26 must be
counted as .25 of a full-time regular student for
20 funding purposes.

22 SUMMARY

24 This bill requires that all homeschooled students
participate in the Maine Educational Assessment and that these
26 students be included in the school funding formula.