

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 6/21/23 Minority LD 974 (Filing No H-675)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H P 621, L D 974, "An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRS §4015 is enacted to read

§4015. Minimum hourly wage for educational technicians and other school support staff

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings

A "Educational technician" has the same meaning as in section 13001-A, subsection 8

B "Other school support staff" means a public school employee who is not an educational technician and who is paid on an hourly basis

2. Minimum hourly wage. Except as provided in subsection 3, for the school year starting after June 30, 2024 and for each subsequent school year, the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians is equal to 200% of the minimum hourly wage established in Title 26, section 664, subsection 1 and the minimum hourly wage for other school support staff is equal to 150% of the minimum hourly wage established in Title 26, section 664, subsection 1

3. Wage increases. If, pursuant to the requirements of Title 26, section 664, subsection 1, the minimum hourly wage is increased on January 1st of any year, the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians and other school support staff is increased beginning July 1st of the same year in an amount equal to 200% of the increased minimum hourly wage under Title 26, section 664, subsection 1 for educational technicians and in an amount equal to 150% of the increased minimum hourly wage under Title 26, section 664, subsection 1 for other school support staff

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

ROSI

1           **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15677, sub-§2, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2003, c 504, Pt A,  
2 §6, is amended to read

3           B For fiscal year 2006-07 ~~and each subsequent year until fiscal year 2024-25~~, the  
4 commissioner shall update the previous year's salary matrix to reflect appropriate  
5 trends in the Consumer Price Index or other comparable index

6           **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §15677, sub-§2, ¶C** is enacted to read

7           C For fiscal year 2024-25 and for each subsequent fiscal year, the commissioner shall  
8 update the previous year's salary matrix to reflect appropriate trends in the Consumer  
9 Price Index or other comparable index and to reflect any increase in the minimum  
10 hourly wage of educational technicians and clerical staff in accordance with section  
11 4015, subsection 3

12           **Sec. 4. Data collection; incorporation into essential programs and services.**

13 A school administrative unit shall provide to the Department of Education on or before  
14 October 1, 2023 the current wage per hour paid to educational technicians and other school  
15 support staff eligible for the minimum hourly wage established in the Maine Revised  
16 Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4015 The department shall incorporate the minimum hourly  
17 wage under Title 20-A, section 4015 into the essential programs and services funding  
18 model under Title 20-A, chapter 606-B

19           **Sec. 5. State contribution.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title  
20 20-A, chapter 606-B, for the school years starting after June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025,  
21 the State shall provide 100% of the additional funding necessary to achieve the minimum  
22 hourly wage for educational technicians and other school support staff established under  
23 Title 20-A, section 4015 The Department of Education shall determine the additional  
24 funding necessary to achieve the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians and  
25 other school support staff for each school administrative unit through the collection of data  
26 from school administrative units under section 4

27           **Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
28 allocations are made

29           **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

30           **General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308**

31 Initiative Provides ongoing funds for the State's cost to support an increase in the minimum  
32 wage for educational technicians and other hourly paid school support staff

33 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
34           All Other	\$0	\$275,656,710
35		
36 <b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	\$0	\$275,656,710

37           **General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308**

38 Initiative Provides one-time funds for system upgrades to support the collection of wage  
39 data for eligible educational technicians and other school support staff to be incorporated  
40 into the essential programs and services funding model

41 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
42           All Other	\$80,000	\$0



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GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$80,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308</b>		
Initiative Provides ongoing funds for the increase in employer contributions related to the normal cost component of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System due to an increase in salaries for educational technicians and other hourly paid school support staff		
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$12,321,855
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$12,321,855</u>
<b>EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>	<b>\$287,978,565</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$80,000</b></u>	<u><b>\$287,978,565</b></u>

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively

**SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill and provides that, beginning in the school year starting after June 30, 2024, the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians is 200% of the state minimum hourly wage and the minimum hourly wage for other school support staff who are paid hourly is 150% of the state minimum hourly wage. If the state minimum hourly wage is increased on January 1st of any year, the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians and other school support staff is increased beginning July 1st of the same year.

The amendment provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2024-25 and for each subsequent fiscal year, the Commissioner of Education is required to update the salary matrix to reflect any increase in the minimum hourly wage of educational technicians and clerical staff, requires school administrative units to provide to the Department of Education on or before October 1, 2023 the current wage per hour paid to educational technicians and other school support staff eligible for the minimum hourly wage, and directs the department to incorporate the minimum hourly wage into the essential programs and services funding model.

The amendment also requires the State to cover 100% of the cost of the increase in the minimum hourly wage for the first 2 years.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See attached)



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 974

LR 2257(03)

## An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

*\$(14-675)*

### Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - local school administrative units

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$80,000	\$287,978,565	\$288,422,152	\$245,338,842
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$80,000	\$287,978,565	\$288,422,152	\$245,338,842

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$80,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 and ongoing General Fund appropriations totaling \$287,978,565 beginning in fiscal year 2024-25 to the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools (GPA) program within the Department of Education for the cost of requiring the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians to be 200% of the state minimum hourly wage and the minimum hourly wage for other school support staff who are paid hourly to be 150% of the state minimum hourly wage beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. Details of the General Fund appropriations are provided below.

The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$80,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 for the department to update its data collection system to allow for school administrative units to report hourly wage data for the staff that are eligible for the minimum hourly wage established in this bill. Once collected, this data will be incorporated into the essential programs and services (EPS) funding model that is used to calculate the total cost of kindergarten to grade 12.

C" B" (H-675)

The bill requires the State to pay 100% of the cost of the minimum wage increase for fiscal year 2024-25 and fiscal year 2025-26. General Fund appropriations of \$275,656,710 in fiscal year 2024-25 to the GPA program are included in the bill for that cost. Additionally, the increase in salaries will increase the employer contribution for the normal cost component of the Maine Public Employers Retirement System (MainePERS). The rate for the normal cost component for fiscal year 2024-25 is 4.47%. When this rate is applied to the projected increase in educational technicians and other school support staff salaries the additional amount that will need to be paid to MainePERS for the normal cost of teacher retirement is estimated to be \$12,321,855. This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations for that amount to fund the 100% of this cost in fiscal year 2024-25.

Although not addressed in the bill, incrementally increasing minimum salary thresholds may put pressure on SAU's to raise salaries for other employees who are already above the minimum. Any additional salary increases SAU's may choose to provide would be fully funded by the SAU's unless the Commissioner of Education recommends adjusting the salary matrix within the essential programs and services funding model and these changes get implemented.