

## Seventy-first Legislature.

### HOUSE.

No. 511

### STATE OF MAINE.

The Committee on Education to which was referred the bill, entitled "An Act relating to the apportionment of the State school fund and mill tax" have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report and that it ought not to pass.

> WILSON, PIERCE, J. W. PERKINS, G. W. IRVING, EUGENE THOMAS, THOMPSON.

The Committee on Education to which was referred the bill, entitled "An Act relating to the apportionment of the State school fund and mill tax" have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report the same in a new draft under same title and that it ought to pass.

> RANDALL, MEAD, STEARNS.

#### NEW DRAFT.

# Seventy-first Legislature.

## STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND THREE.

AN ACT relating to the apportionment of the State School Fund and Mill Tax.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Section I. Section II7 of chapter II of Revised Statutes is 2 hereby amended by striking out all of said section after the 3 word "towns," and substituting in lieu thereof the words, 4 'one-half according to the average number of children 5 between five and twenty-one years of age attending the public 6 schools during the preceding year, and one-half upon the 7 basis of the average number of weeks each child is enrolled 8 and in attendance at said public schools' so that said section, 9 as amended, shall read as follows:

"The treasurer of State shall keep a separate account of all II moneys received from sales of lands appropriated for the I2 support of schools or from notes taken therefor, and of any 13 other moneys appropriated for the same purpose; and such 14 sum shall constitute a permanent school fund, which may be 15 put at interest as the legislature directs. A sum equal to six 16 per cent of the amount of such fund, and all money received 17 by the State from the tax on banks, and one-half the sum 18 received by the State from the tax in the franchises of savings 19 banks, shall be annually appropriated to the support of com-20 mon schools, and distributed among the several towns, one-21 half according to the average number of children between five 22 and twenty-one years of age attending the public schools 23 during the preceding year, and one half upon the basis of the 24 average number of weeks each child is enrolled and in attend-25 ance in said public schools.'

Sect. 2. Section 121 of chapter 11 of the Revised Statutes 2 is hereby amended by striking out the words, "to the number 3 of scholars therein" in line three and by substituting in lieu 4 thereof the words, 'one half according to the average number 5 of children between five and twenty-one years of age attend-6 ing the public schools during the preceding year, and one half 7 upon the basis of the average number of weeks each child is 8 enrolled and in attendance in said public schools, as shown 9 by section 117' so that said section as amended, shall read 10 as follows. 'This fund shall be distributed by the treasurer 11 of State, on the first day of January, annually, to the several 12 cities, towns and plantations, one-half according to the aver-13 age number of children between five and twenty-one years 14 of age attending the public schools during the preceding year, 15 and one-half upon the basis of the average number of weeks 16 each child is enrolled and in attendance in said public schools.'

Sect. 3. Chapter 289 of the Public Laws of 1897 is hereby 2 amended by striking out the words, "The number of persons 3 between the ages of four and twenty-one years" in the second 4 and third lines, and substituting in lieu thereof the words, 5 'the average number of children between five and twenty-one

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6 years of age, attending the public schools, and the average 7 number of weeks each child is enrolled and in attendance in 8 said public schools' so that said section, as amended, shall 9 read as follows:

'He shall give in his returns the average number of children, 11 between five and twenty-one years of age, attending the public 12 schools, and the average number of weeks each child is 13 enrolled and in attendance in said public schools, corrected to 14 the first day of April preceding the time of making said 15 returns, and full and complete answers to the inquiries con-16 tained in the blank forms furnished him by law; certify that 17 such statement is true and correct, according to his best 18 knowledge and belief; and transmit it to the office of the State 19 superintendent on or before the first day of each May. He 20 shall also furnish such other information relating to the public 21 schools as the said superintendent shall at any time require 22 of him.'

Sect. 4. Paraghaph 3 of section 98 of chapter 11 of the 2 Revised Statutes as amended by chapter 216, of the Public 3 Laws of 1893, and by chapter 120 of the Public Laws of 1895, 4 is hereby further amended by striking out all of said para-5 graph after the word "age" and substituting in lieu thereof 6 the following, 'belonging to his town, on the first day of April 7 preceding, the average number of said children attending the 8 public schools during the preceding year, and the average 9 number of weeks each child is enrolled and in attendance in 10 said public schools,' so that said paragraph, as amended, shall 11 read as follows:

'The number of children between five and twenty-one years 13 of age, belonging to his town, on the first day of April pre-14 ceding, the average number of said children attending the 15 public schools during the preceding year, and the average 16 number of weeks each child is enrolled and in attendance in 17 said public school.' Sect. 5. Section 106 of chapter 11 of Revised Statutes is 2 hereby amended by striking out the words "number of chil-3 dren between four and twenty-one years of age" and sub-4 stituting in lieu thereof the words, 'the average number of 5 children between five and twenty-one years of age, attending 6 the public schools during the preceding year, and the average 7 number of weeks each child is enrolled and in attendance in 8 said public schools' so that said section, as amended, shall 9 read as follows:

'He shall, on the first day of each June, notify the school II committee if any town where returns were not received at his I2 office in May, and shall, annually, ascertain on the first day I3 of July, the average number of children between five and I4 twenty-one years of age attending the public schools during I5 the preceding year and the average number of weeks each I6 child is enrolled and in attendance in said public schools, in I7 the towns from which returns are received, and furnish a list I8 thereof to the treasurer of State.'

Sect. 6. This act shall take effect January 1, 1904.

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### STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AUGUSTA. March 20, 1903.

Tabled pending acceptance of either report, by Mr. RANDALL of Freeport, and with bill in new draft, ordered printed.

W. S. COTTON, Clerk.