

NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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No. 379

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT for the improvement of free high schools.

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

Section 1. No school shall be regarded as a high school 2 within the meaning of any of the provisions of Chapter fif-3 teen of the Revised Statutes unless such school shall be in-4 cluded in the following classes:

Class A. This class shall include such schools as maintain 6 at least one approved course of study through four years of 7 thirty-six weeks each and of standard grade, together with 8 approved laboratory equipment, and shall employ at least 9 two teachers; provided the town, precinct or union main-10 taining such school shall appropriate and expend for instruc-

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11 tion therein at least eight hundred and fifty dollars annually12 exclusive of all tuition received.

Class B. This class shall include such schools as main-14 tain one approved course of study through at least two 15 years of thirty-six weeks and of standard grade, together 16 with approved equipment, provided the town, precinct or 17 union maintaining such school shall appropriate and expend 18 for instruction therein at least five hundred dollars annually 19 exclusive of all tuitions received.

Class C. This class shall include such schools as maintain 21 at least one approved course of study through four years 22 of thirty weeks each; provided the town, precinct or union 23 maintaining such school shall appropriate and expend for 24 instruction therein at least four hundred and fifty dollars 25 annually exclusive of all tuitions received.

Sect. 2. A town, precinct or union maintaining a high 2 school, as defined in section one of this act, shall be reim-3 bursed by the State for two-thirds of the amount paid for 4 instruction in such school; but in no case shall more than 5 five hundred dollars be paid by the State to a town, precinct 6 or union in any one year.

Sect. 3. A town, precinct or union maintaining a high 2 school, as provided in Class A of section one of this act, 3 shall not be obliged to pay tuition under section sixty-three 4 and sixty-four of chapter fifteen. A town, precinct or 5 union maintaining a high school, as provided in Class B of 6 section one shall not be obliged to pay tuition for any pupil

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7 until he has completed the first two years of the course of the 8 Class B school, and for only two years of subsequent work. 9 A town, precinct or union maintaining a high school, as pro-10 vided in Class C of section one, shall be obliged to pay tui-11 tion for such portion of a four years' course as may be de-12 termined by the State Superintendent of Public Schools.

Sect. 4. All schools of secondary grade receiving State 2 aid shall be inspected annually under the direction of the 3 State Superintendent of Public Schools, and for this pur-4 pose he shall be authorized to expend not to exceed two 5 thousand dollars annually, which sum shall be paid from 6 the State appropriation for the support of high schools; and 7 he shall determine what schools are included in the classi-8 fication of section one of this act, what schools maintain the 9 courses of study, what schools are entitled to State aid and 10 what schools maintain approved courses for the reception 11 of tuition scholars.

Sect. 5. After this act takes effect all other State aid for 2 high schools as provided by law shall cease.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, March 2, 1909.

Reported by Mr. HIGGINS from Committee on Education and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, Clerk.