

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 58

House of Representatives, Jan. 30, 1919.

Introduced by Mr. Washburn of Perry. By Mr. Allan of Portland tabled for printing pending reference to a committee and 500 copies ordered printed.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Washburn of Perry.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Provide for the Distribution of State School Funds
Available for the Support of Common Schools.

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

Section 1. In this act the word "town" shall include the
2 cities, towns and plantations in which common schools are
3 established and controlled by the several municipalities;
4 the expression "aggregate attendance" shall be understood
5 to be the sum total of the number of days attendance for
6 any one school year of each regularly enrolled pupil of a
7 common school; the words "common school fund" shall be
8 understood to be the sum total of one-half the tax on sav-

9 ings banks as provided by law, one-half the tax on trust
10 and banking companies as provided by law, a sum equal
11 to six per cent of the permanent school fund as provided
12 by law, together with all moneys received by the treasurer
13 of state under sections one hundred fifty-five, one hundred
14 fifty-six, one hundred fifty-nine and one hundred sixty of
15 chapter sixteen of the revised statutes.

Sect. 2. The common school fund not otherwise appro-
2 priated by law shall be distributed by the treasurer of state
3 to the towns on the first day of December nineteen hundred
4 twenty, and annually thereafter, according to the aggregate
5 attendance of scholars in each town as the same shall ap-
6 pear from the official returns made to the state superin-
7 tendent of public schools for the preceding school year as
8 provided for by section sixty-one of chapter sixteen of the
9 revised statutes. Said return shall include such facts in
10 regard to attendance and days when schools are in session
11 as the state superintendent of public schools shall determine
12 and may be required to be attested by the teachers in charge
13 of the schools.

Sect. 3. The aggregate attendance of scholars in a town
2 shall be determined by the state superintendent of public
3 schools by adding the total number of days each pupil was
4 in actual attendance, provided that attendance of each reg-
5 ularly enrolled pupil shall be counted for each school holi-
6 day, for each day of the school year when there was no
7 session of school because of the absence of the teacher in

8 attendance on teachers' meetings as provided by law, for
9 not more than one day in each term when there was no
10 session of school because of the absence of the teacher in
11 visiting other schools when so authorized by the superin-
12 tending school committee, and for each day of the school
13 year, not to exceed a total of fifteen school days in any one
14 school year, when there was no session of school by order
15 of the proper authorities because of the prevalence of an
16 epidemic or because of the unfitness of the school building
17 from the effects of fire or other unpreventable cause, pro-
18 vided such loss of sessions is not afterward made up. For
19 all schools lawfully established and maintained there shall
20 be reckoned a minimum of aggregate attendance of fifteen
21 hundred days. The attendance of pupils in union schools
22 established as provided by law shall be credited to the town
23 in which the school is located, and the amounts to be con-
24 tributed by each town for the maintenance of such school
25 shall be determined by the superintending school commit-
26 tees of the said towns.

Sect. 4. The state superintendent of public schools, with
2 the approval of the governor and council, shall formulate
3 such rules and regulations in regard to recording attend-
4 ance in schools as may be necessary for the administration
5 of the provisions of this act.

Sect. 5. When in the opinion of the state superintendent
2 of public schools there is cause to investigate any returns
3 made to him as provided by the preceding sections, he shall

4 report the same to the governor and council with his recom-
5 mendations, and with the approval of the governor and
6 council he shall make such investigation as shall determine
7 the true aggregate attendance as provided in this act.

Sect. 6. One-half the amount received by any town from
2 the distribution provided herein shall be deemed to be raised
3 by such town within the meaning of section sixteen in said
4 chapter sixteen of the revised statutes:

Sect. 7. This act shall take effect January first, nineteen
2 hundred twenty. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
3 with this act are hereby repealed.