

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Senate Document

No. 140

S. P. 363

In Senate, Feb. 25, 1927.

Referred to Committee on Education and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Speirs of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Provide State Aid for Academies, Institutes,
Seminaries and Junior Colleges.

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

Section 1. Sections 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103 and 104 of
2 the revised statutes are hereby amended by striking out
3 said sections and inserting in place thereof the following:

‘Sect. 2. *Definition.* Whenever in this act the word “acad-
2 emy” occurs it shall be construed to mean also “seminary,”
3 “institute,” or “junior college” as their terms are common-
4 ly accepted in this state and shall be in academic instruc-
5 tion beyond the elementary school—but shall not repre-
6 sent a full college course, and shall be operating under pri-
7 vate charter.

Sect. 3. *Must meet requirements of commissioner of education.* Each and every institution which shares in the benefits of the funds provided in this act shall meet the requirements and standards for the approval of free public high schools in courses of study, methods of instruction, essential equipment, number and certification of teachers, and shall be approved by the state commissioner of education.

Sect. 4. *Institutions receiving aid shall report to commissioner of education.* Every educational institution receiving state aid and the officers of every academy sharing in the benefits as provided herein, and every school or academy approved for tuition purposes shall, annually, on or before the first of August of each year, report to the commissioner of education on forms provided by him, the number of students, both residents of the state and otherwise, their attendance, an account of all moneys received and expended during the preceding year, the number and names of instructors and such other items as may be required from time to time. Every such institution failing to comply with the requirements herein shall forfeit whatever state aid or assistance it would otherwise receive.

Sec. 5. *Requirements for state aid.* For each teaching position filled by a legally qualified teacher the institution shall receive annually one hundred dollars. Provided all students are residents of the state or for such proportion as such students are of the total number in average daily attendance. Academies with not less than thirty nor more

7 than sixty students in daily attendance shall receive twenty
8 dollars per student. Academies with more than sixty and
9 not more than one hundred shall receive ten dollars per
10 student on actual attendance and all academies with more
11 than one hundred students shall receive three dollars per
12 capita on attendance; all such institutions as meet these re-
13 quirements shall receive the same per diem on aggregate
14 attendance as is accorded the free public high schools. Pro-
15 vided also that only students who are residents of this state
16 shall be reckoned in these awards.

Sect. 6. *Students must present certificates of qualifica-*
2 *tions.* When students register for the first time in any
3 academy which is to share in the benefits of this act, or to
4 receive tuition from public funds, each student must pre-
5 sent a certificate from the superintendent of the town of
6 which said student is a resident, stating that the work as
7 required by the elementary schools of the town has been
8 completed in satisfactory manner.

Sect. 7. *Special provisions.* (a) No academy shall share
2 in the benefits of this act unless established prior to July
3 first, nineteen hundred twenty. (b) The minimum award
4 under the provisions of this act shall be eight hundred dol-
5 lars and maximum amount shall be twenty-five hundred,
6 provided these amounts shall not include any award from
7 the provisions for equalization. (c) No academy shall re-
8 ceive state aid which does not maintain an average of thirty
9 students who are residents of this state. Provided the com-

10 missioner of education may with the approval of the gov-
11 ernor and council make such award to any academy which
12 is deemed of special service and which may have fewer
13 students, but such award shall not exceed five hundred dol-
14 lars. (d) Any academy which receives special appropria-
15 tion from the legislature for any year shall become thereby
16 ineligible to share in the benefits of this act for that year.
17 (e) No academy shall receive more than one-half of its re-
18 quired funds from state aid. (f) No academy shall receive
19 aid as provided herein if said academy has an annual in-
20 come from vested funds exceeding three thousand dollars,
21 but may receive an award from the academy equalization
22 fund if it is recommended by the commissioner of educa-
23 tion and approved by the governor and council, and the
24 condition of its funds are deemed inadequate to maintain
25 a required efficiency. But no institution shall during any
26 year receive more than one thousand dollars from such fund.

Sect. 8. *Academy Equalization Fund.* In order to facili-
2 tate the welfare of such academies as are contemplated in
3 this act there is hereby established an annual equalization
4 fund of five thousand dollars, which may be apportioned
5 in amounts not exceeding one thousand dollars in any one
6 academy for any one year. Whenever it shall appear from
7 the reports, financial and statistical, and from such investi-
8 gation as the commissioner of education shall make, either
9 personally or by assistants, that any academy is in special
10 need and especially for the encouragement of junior col-

11 leges, the commissioner of education may recommend such
12 amounts as he may deem necessary within the limits herein
13 prescribed and upon approval of the governor and council
14 an award may be made in the manner herein prescribed.

Sect. 9. *Mode of payment.* The governor and council
2 may draw warrants on the treasurer of state for the annual
3 payments to the legal representatives of such academies as
4 meet the provisions of this act, such payments and awards
5 at the times and in the manner provided by law for the pay-
6 ment of money in aiding public schools, of the amounts to
7 which they are severally entitled. Provided that no pay-
8 ment or award shall be made to any academy until the com-
9 missioner of education shall have certified to the governor
10 and council all of the facts which by law are made neces-
11 sary to entitle an academy to receive state aid.