

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 186

H. P. 238

House of Representatives, January 28, 1943.

Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Miss Deering of Bath.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-THREE

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**AN ACT Relating to Apportionment to Towns for Teaching Positions.**

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

**R. S., c. 19, § 207, amended.** Section 207 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows :

**'Sec. 207. Apportionment to towns for teaching positions.** On the basis of information furnished to the commissioner of education by the return of educational statistics for the year ending July 1st, annually, as provided for by section 58, said commissioner shall apportion to each town the sum of ~~\$100~~ \$190 for each teaching position, or a corresponding fractional part of ~~\$100~~ \$190 for each fractional part of a teaching position maintained in the elementary and secondary schools of such town, **provided, however, that no town failing to maintain the minimum program prescribed in section 210 shall receive over \$100 per teaching position.** Whenever any school is closed or suspended as provided for by section 2 of this chapter and pupils attending such school have been conveyed to another school under such conditions of conveyance as may be approved by the commissioner of education, there may be apportioned to the town in which such school was maintained such amount as, added to the amount apportioned under the provisions of this section on account of teaching positions, will give to said town, on account of said school, the same amount as though this position had been

maintained for the entire year; provided, ~~further~~ **however**, that so long as said school remains closed and satisfactory conveyance is maintained there may be apportioned the same amount as for the maintenance of a teaching position, provided, however, that the amount so apportioned shall not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  the cost of such conveyance, **and such apportionment shall not in any case exceed \$100 per each teaching position maintained during the year previous to the closing or suspension of said school.'**

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 19, § 210, amended.** Section 210 of chapter 19 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 210. School equalization fund, how apportioned.** The school equalization fund shall be apportioned by the commissioner of education to the towns qualified to receive aid from said fund as follows:

I. Whenever any town through its superintendent or superintending school committee shall submit to the commissioner of education a definite plan for consolidation of schools, conveyance of pupils, housing of teachers, standardization of schools, or other projects especially worthy of encouragement, said commissioner shall investigate such plan and upon approval of the same may recommend to the governor and council the payment to such town of an amount, not exceeding \$500 in any one year, as an encouragement to such plan or project, provided, however, that the total amount available for aid under this paragraph shall not exceed \$10,000 of the equalization fund.

II. That part of the school equalization fund not apportioned as provided for by the preceding paragraph shall be apportioned to towns wherein the rate of taxation in excess of the average of rates for the several towns of the state fails to produce a school revenue sufficient to provide adequate funds together with the apportionment from the state school fund and the income from any permanent school fund to maintain a minimum educational program, i. e.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  the cost of conveyance of elementary and secondary school pupils at public expense ~~\$783~~ **\$940** per elementary unit, ~~\$1305~~ **\$1405** per secondary unit, **at least \$720 of which amounts shall be expended for teachers' wages**, and the amount paid for secondary tuition; provided, that the rate of taxation hereinbefore named shall be reckoned on the basis of the amount or amounts actually raised by taxation by the town for the support of elementary and secondary schools for the purposes named in section 212, exclusive of any amounts received from the state. The commissioner of education shall cause a special investigation to be made of the educational facilities of such towns and, whenever it appears to the said commissioner that any town should receive special aid or encouragement for

the purpose of raising the standard of qualifications of teachers or of increasing the length of the school year or otherwise adding to the efficiency of the schools, he shall issue to the governor and council a recommendation relative thereto, and the governor and council may draw a warrant in favor of the treasurer of said town from the equalization fund for an amount to cover the difference between the proceeds of a tax of 12 mills on the valuation of the town as fixed by the state bureau of taxation together with the apportionment from the state school fund and the interest on any permanent school fund, and the cost of a minimum educational program as hereinbefore defined: provided, however, that no town may receive in any year an amount in excess of the proceeds of a levy of ~~12~~ 13 mills on the valuation of the town **unless after the town has levied a tax of over 20 mills for the support of schools, sufficient funds are not available to maintain the minimum program, in which case the balance shall be made up from the equalization fund.** The amount apportioned shall be expended under the direction of the superintending school committee of said town in accordance with the recommendation as made by the said commissioner. Whenever the amount of the equalization fund as now provided by law is less than the sum of the amounts recommended to provide a minimum program in the towns of the state the necessary balance shall be provided from the general funds of the state.'