

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S E C O N D L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 569

H. P. 935

House of Representatives, February 8, 1945.

Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and 1500 copies ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Russell of Gorham.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to Apportionment to Towns for Teaching Positions.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 37, § 201, amended. The 1st and 2nd sentences of section 201 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes are hereby amended to read as follows:

'On the basis of information furnished to the commissioner by the return of educational statistics for the year ending July 1st, annually, as provided for by section 64, said commissioner shall apportion to each town the sum of ~~\$190~~ \$370 for each teaching position, or a corresponding fractional part of ~~\$190~~ \$370 for each fractional part of a teaching position maintained **and approved by the commissioner** in the elementary and secondary schools of such town, provided, however, that no town failing to maintain the minimum program prescribed in section 204 shall receive over \$100 per teaching position. ~~The distribution of state school funds to towns on account of teaching positions in December, 1943 shall be based upon the minimum program as established by section 204.~~'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 37, § 204, sub-§ II, amended. Subsection II of section 204 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘II. That part of the school equalization fund not apportioned as provided for by the preceding subsection 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, ~~\$940~~ \$1,080 per elementary unit, **provided that \$800 is expended for teachers’ wages, \$1,180 per elementary unit, provided that \$900 is expended for teachers’ wages, \$1,380 per elementary unit, provided that \$1,100 is expended for teachers’ wages, ~~\$1,405~~ \$1,625 per secondary unit, at least ~~\$720~~ \$800 of which amounts shall be expended for teachers’ wages for teachers with less than 2 years of post high school professional training, at least \$900 of which amounts shall be expended for teachers’ wages for teachers with at least 2 years but less than 3 years of post high school professional training, at least \$1,100 of which amounts shall be expended for teachers’ wages for teachers with at least 3 years of post high school professional training, 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 206, exclusive of any amounts received from the state. The commissioner shall cause a special investigation to be made of the educational facilities of such towns and, whenever it appears to the 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 ~~13~~ 12 mills on the valuation of the town as fixed by the board of equalization together with the apportionment from the state school fund, and the cost of a minimum educational program as hereinbefore defined; provided, however, that on town may receive in any year an amount in excess of the proceeds of a levy of ~~13~~ 12 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 may 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 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~~ **fund** of the state.'