

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F I F T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 859

H. P. 1304

House of Representatives, February 22, 1951.

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Woodworth of Fairfield.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to School Subsidies.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 37, §§ 211-K - 211-M, additional. Chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto 3 new sections, to be numbered 211-K to 211-M, inclusive, to read as follows:

‘Sec. 211-K. **Right to subsidy defined.** Mindful of the mandate contained in article VIII of the constitution of Maine that it is the duty of the legislature to require the several towns to make suitable provision, at their own expense, for the support of public schools, and further mindful of the fact that the legislature may grant such assistance as it deems fit, it is hereby declared that state assistance or subsidy may be granted for school purposes to such towns as shall qualify for such assistance under the following rules:

I. A town which has a property valuation of \$3,000,000 or more, as determined by the board of equalization, is conclusively presumed to be self-sufficient and shall receive no subsidy.

II. The standard cost of educating a child in the public schools, for the purpose of sections 211-K to 211-M, inclusive, is the average cost per

pupil in all those towns whose valuation as determined by the board of equalization is \$3,000,000 or more, as shown by the records of the preceding year.

III. In order to qualify for state assistance or subsidy, a town must raise and appropriate for the support of public schools a sum equivalent to a levy of 27 mills on each dollar of town property valuation, as determined by the board of equalization.

IV. If the town has so raised and appropriated the sum required in subsection III and the amount so appropriated is less per capita than the standard cost of education in the public schools, as established by subsection II, such town shall qualify for a subsidy.

Sec. 211-L. Amount of subsidy. Towns which qualify for a subsidy shall be entitled to a proportionate share of moneys appropriated by the legislature for the payment of subsidies; provided, however, that in no case shall the town receive more than the difference between the sum raised by the town and the sum which would provide the standard per capita cost specified in subsection II of section 211-K. If the sum appropriated by the legislature for subsidies under this act is insufficient to pay in full all towns which qualify for subsidies, each town shall be paid a proportionate share of the funds available. The percentage of payment shall be determined by dividing the amount available by the total sum of demands. The sum appropriated by the legislature is the total liability of the state.

Sec. 211-M. Nothing herein shall prevent a town from accepting or the state from paying any federal funds for which the state is simply a disbursing agent.'

Sec. 2. Repealing clause. All statutory provisions inconsistent with this chapter are hereby repealed.