

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1308**

H. P. 1160

House of Representatives, March 5, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Fuller of South Portland

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-THREE

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**AN ACT Relating to Clarification of Municipal School Appropriations.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 37, § 29, amended.** Section 29 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 29. Towns to provide certain facilities; purchase of school books regulated.** Towns shall provide schoolbooks, apparatus and appliances for the use of pupils in the public schools, including all free high schools, at the expense of said town **as provided in section 206**; provided, however, that any parent or guardian of any pupil in the public schools may at his own expense procure for the separate and exclusive use of such pupil the text-books required to be used in such schools, and no second-hand books shall be purchased for the use of any school. Whoever violates this provision shall forfeit not exceeding \$500, to be recovered in an action of debt by any school officer or person aggrieved.

Towns shall also pay for the necessary repairs of school buildings and the ~~insurance on the same, if any~~ improvement and maintenance of school yards and playgrounds out of a sum or sums of money raised and appropriated for that purpose, which shall be assessed like other money and shall

be in addition to and independent of the amount which towns are required by law to raise, assess and expend for the support of schools **as provided in section 206.**'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 37, § 45, amended.** Section 45 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 45. Committee to serve without pay.** Superintending school committees shall serve without pay unless otherwise voted by the town **under the provisions of section 206.**'

**Sec. 3. R. S., c. 37, § 59, amended.** Section 59 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 59. Expense that may be incurred by city or town.** Expenses which a city or town may incur by virtue of the authority herein vested in the superintending school committee shall not exceed the amount appropriated for that purpose in cities by the city government and in towns by a town meeting **under the provisions of section 206.**'

The appropriation shall precede any expenditure under the 7 preceding sections, and the sum appropriated shall be deemed sufficient appropriation in the municipality where it is made. Such appropriation need not specify to what section it shall apply and may be voted as a total appropriation to be applied in carrying out the purposes of ~~said~~ sections **52 to 59, inclusive.**'

**Sec. 4. R. S., c. 37, § 65, amended.** Section 65 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 65. Flags to be furnished schools.** Superintendents of schools shall see that the flag is displayed from the public school buildings on appropriate occasions. They shall report annually to the towns the amount necessary to furnish the public schools with suitable flags and flagstuffs, and towns shall annually appropriate, **under the provisions of section 206,** a sufficient amount to defray the necessary cost of the display of the flag. ~~The appropriation for this purpose shall be separate from and additional to all other appropriations for schools~~ It shall be the duty of instructors to impress upon the youth by suitable references and observances the significance of the flag, to teach them the cost, the object, and principles of our government, the inestimable sacrifices made by our forefathers, the important contribution made by all who have served in the armed services of our country since its inception, and to teach them to love, honor and respect the flag of our country, that cost so much and is so dear to every true American citizen.'

**Sec. 5. R. S., c. 37, § 75, amended.** Section 75 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 75. Appropriation for salary of superintendent.** Towns shall appropriate for the salary of the superintendent of schools their proportion of the sum paid said superintendent to the amount certified by the joint committee to the town treasurer, and said proportion to be paid by any town ~~may shall~~ be paid out of ~~an the~~ appropriation for the salaries of town officers ~~or out of a special appropriation for the purpose or out of both,~~ but it shall not be paid from any appropriation made for the support or maintenance of public schools or high schools as provided under section 206.'

**Sec. 6. R. S., c. 37, § 79, amended.** Section 79 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 79. Appropriation of amount required for public school purposes; forfeiture for violation.** ~~No town shall receive state aid under sections 71 and 72 unless its appropriation and expenditure for superintendence have been exclusive of the amount required by law for public school purposes.~~ If any part of the money raised by the towns or union of towns, or paid to them by the state for superintendence, is expended for any other purposes than those provided for in ~~said~~ sections 71 and 72, then each person so misappropriating said money shall forfeit double the sum so misapplied, to be recovered in an action of debt in the name and to the use of the town, by any inhabitant thereof; and no town or union of towns shall receive further aid under said sections until the amount so misapplied has been raised and expended for superintendence by such town or union of towns.'

**Sec. 7. R. S., c. 37, § 85, amended.** The next to the last sentence of section 85 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Superintending school committees shall elect attendance officers at their first meeting after the annual meeting of the town; they shall fill any vacancies occurring during the year and they may fix the compensation of said officers, and said compensations shall be paid from the appropriation made for the salaries of ~~municipal~~ attendance officers under section 206.'

**Sec. 8. R. S., c. 37, § 206, amended.** Section 206 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 206. How state money may be expended by towns.** Amounts re-

ceived by the towns from the state **for general purpose aid** may be expended by said towns, in conjunction with such funds as the towns shall raise and appropriate, for the following purposes in both elementary and secondary schools: the payment of teachers' ~~wages~~ **salaries** and board, fuel, janitors' services, conveyance **cost, school bus purchases,** tuition, ~~and~~ board of pupils, text-books, reference books, ~~and~~ school supplies for desk or laboratory use, **public utility services, flags, replacement of instructional equipment, fire insurance, compensation of superintendent and his assistants, school committee and office, attendance officer and medical inspection.**

The unexpended balance of all moneys raised by towns or received from the state for the above purposes shall be **forwarded and** credited to the **same** school resources for the **ensuing year following that in which said unexpended balance accrues.**