

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1350

S. P. 480

In Senate, April 29, 1959

Reported by Senator Bates of Penobscot from the Committee on Education, and printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-NINE

AN ACT Revising the Law Relating to Education of Physically Handicapped or Exceptional Children.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 41, § 207-A, amended. Section 207-A of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 467 of the public laws of 1955, is amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 207-A. Purpose. It is ~~hereby~~ declared to be the policy of the State to provide, within practical limits, equal educational opportunities for all ~~educable~~ ~~44c~~ children in Maine **able to benefit from an instructional program approved by the State Board of Education.** The purpose of sections 207-A to 207-I is to provide educational facilities, services and equipment for all handicapped or exceptional children below 21 years of age and who cannot be adequately taught with safety and benefit in the regular public school classes of normal children or who can attend regular classes beneficially if special services are provided. **Special classes in public schools are to include educable children only.'**

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 41, § 207-B, amended. Section 207-B of chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 467 of the public laws of 1955 and as amended by section 83 of chapter 364 of the public laws of 1957, is further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 207-B. Definitions. The term "handicapped or exceptional child" shall mean any ~~educable~~ child under 21 years of age **able to benefit from an instructional program approved by the State Board of Education** whose parents or guardian ~~or person acting in loco parentis resides~~ **maintains a home for his family in any administrative unit** within the State, and whose educational needs

cannot be adequately provided for through the usual facilities and services of the public schools, because of the physical or mental deviations of such child.

"Special services" shall be transportation; tutoring; corrective teaching, such as speech reading, speech correction, sight conservation and similar forms of instruction; and provision of special seats, books and teaching supplies and equipment required for the instruction of handicapped or exceptional children.'

Sec. 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this act the sum of \$10,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960 and \$20,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961.