

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

## Ninety-fifth Legislature

OF THE

# STATE OF MAINE

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**PUBLIC LAWS**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

As Passed by the Ninety-fifth Legislature

**1951**

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## Chapter 385

### AN ACT Relating to Use Fuel Tax.

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

R. S., c. 14, § 170, amended. The next to the last paragraph of section 170 of chapter 14 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

“User” shall mean any person who uses and consumes fuel within this state in an internal combustion engine for the generation of power to propel vehicles of any kind or character on the public highways of this state, except in vehicles which are prohibited by law from operating on the public highways.’

Effective August 20, 1951

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## Chapter 386

### AN ACT Providing for General-Purpose Educational Aid to Cities, Towns, Plantations and Community School Districts.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 37, § 201, repealed and replaced. Section 201 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 201. General-purpose educational aid; minimum salaries for teachers; reimbursement for professional credits. On the basis of information available in the office of the commissioner of education on September 1st for the 2 years next preceding the biennial convening of the legislature, as provided in returns of educational statistics required by him, the commissioner shall apportion subsidies to the cities, towns, plantations and community school districts of the state according to the following plan:

The several cities, towns and plantations shall be divided into 9 classifications according to their valuations per resident school child being educated at public expense. The valuation shall be as determined by the board of equalization in the statement filed by it, as provided in section 65 of chapter 14 and effective on September 1st, and the number of children shall be the average of the last 2 enrollment reports of pupils being educated at public expense on April 1st annually, except that for the years 1951-52

allocations shall be based on the board of equalization statement filed on December 1, 1950, public school enrollment reports, form 35 g. a., of resident pupils for the school year 1949-50 and financial reports for that school year.

For each classification the subsidy allocation shall be the same for each of the 2 years of the biennium and shall be a percentage of the average educational costs of the municipality for the preceding 2 years, excluding costs of capital outlay, rent, debt service, repairs, and certain equipment, and deducting incidental receipts. The cost of vocational education shall be the average of local appropriations for the 2-year period designated in the 1st paragraph of this section, except that for the years 1951-52 it shall be based on reports for the school year 1949-50.

The range of classifications and the percentage allocations shall be as follows:

Class	State valuation per resident pupil		Percentage of state support of educational operating expenditures
1	Not over	\$1,500	65%
2	\$1,501	\$2,250	55%
3	\$2,251	\$3,000	45%
4	\$3,001	\$3,750	35%
5	\$3,751	\$4,500	30% of first \$20,000 25% of the balance
6	\$4,501	\$5,500	25% of first \$20,000 20% of the balance
7	\$5,501	\$6,500	25% of first \$20,000 18% of the balance
8	\$6,501	\$7,500	25% of first \$20,000 16% of the balance
9	\$7,501	and over	25% of first \$20,000 14% of the balance

That portion of the allocation made under this section to any city, town, or plantation which is a member of a community school district, because of its share in the allowable operating costs of the community school, shall be paid to the community school district and shall be credited to the municipality's share of costs for the purposes specified in this section.

Each city, town, plantation and community school district shall employ only certified teachers and shall pay such teachers a minimum salary of \$1,500 for a certified teacher; \$1,600 for a teacher who has completed 3 years of professional study beyond high school; \$1,700 for a teacher who

has completed 4 years of professional study beyond high school; and \$1,800 for a teacher who holds an earned master's degree. Any city, town, plantation or community school district which fails to comply with any of these conditions shall have deducted from its apportionment a sum equal to twice that by which it is delinquent.

After providing an opportunity for a hearing, the state board of education, on recommendation of the commissioner, may adjust the state subsidy to a municipality or community school district when, in the opinion of the board, the expenditures for education in such municipality or district show evidence of manipulation to gain an unfair advantage or are adjudged excessive.

Whenever any certified teacher completes, within any 2-year period, 6 credit hours of additional professional work approved by the commissioner and receives supplementary financial assistance in an amount not less than \$50 from a municipality or community school district, the municipality or community school district shall receive reimbursement of \$50 from the state for such expenditure at the next distribution of state funds; provided further, that the renewal of each teaching certificate shall be conditional on the completion of at least 6 semester hours of professional study within each period of 5 years.

If the employment of teachers under permits or other special licenses is authorized by the state board of education, the said board shall have the authority to prescribe minimum salaries and other regulations for this class of teachers.

It is the intent of the legislature that the formula contained in this section shall serve as a guide for the allocation of such appropriations as may be made by successive legislatures with respect to this school subsidy payment, and it is not the intent of the legislature to guarantee to the several cities and towns any more or any less than the sum total so appropriated.

Subject to the foregoing provisions of this section, the state board of education may make such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary for carrying out the purposes and provisions of this section.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 37, §§ 202, 203, 204, repealed. Sections 202, 203 and 204 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes, as amended, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. **Effective date.** The provisions of this act shall become effective for the allocations to be made in the year 1952. It is the intent of the legislature that the 1951 allocations be made under the provisions of law as they existed prior to the effective date of this act.