

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

One Hundred and Fourth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE
1969

R. S., T. 22, § 3502, amended. Section 3502 of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

§ 3502. Education of blind children

Upon the request, and with the approval, of the parents or guardians, the department may send such blind children as it may deem fit subjects for education for a term not exceeding 10 years, and thereafter in the discretion of the department, in the case of any pupil, to the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind at Watertown, Massachusetts or other, for any length of time in the discretion of the department but not beyond the time when said child has reached its 21st birthday, to any school considered by the department to be qualified to provide suitable education for the blind child. In the exercise of the discretionary power conferred by this section, no distinction shall be made on account of the wealth or poverty of the parents or guardians of such children. No such pupil shall be withdrawn from such institution except with the consent of the proper authorities thereof or of the Governor. The sums necessary for the support and instruction of such pupils in such institution school, including all traveling expenses of such pupils attending such institution school, shall be paid by the State. Nothing herein contained shall be held to prevent the voluntary payment of the whole or any part of such sums by the parents or guardians of such pupils.

Effective October 1, 1969

Chapter 233

AN ACT Relating to Burial of Honorably Discharged Veterans.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 37, § 153, amended. Section 153 of Title 37 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

§ 153. Burial expenses

Whenever any person who has served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps Armed Forces of the United States and was honorably discharged therefrom shall die, being at the time of his death a resident of this State and in destitute circumstances, the State, through the Department of Veterans Services, shall pay the necessary expenses of his burial; or whenever the widow of any person who served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps Armed Forces of the United States and was honorably discharged therefrom shall die, being at the time of her death a resident of this State and being in destitute circumstances and having no kindred living within this State and of sufficient ability legally liable for her support, the State, through the Department of Veterans Services, shall pay the necessary expenses of her burial. Such expenses shall not exceed the sum of \$250 in any case and the burial shall be in some cemetery not used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead.

Sec. 2. P. L., 1963, c. 433, § 5, repealed. Section 5 of chapter 433 of the public laws of 1963 is repealed, as follows:

Sec. 5. Payment. Upon payment of the claim by the Department of Veterans Services, as provided for in the Revised Statutes, chapter 26, sections 20 and 21, the Department of Health and Welfare will reimburse the Department of Veterans Services for the expenditures so made from any available funds that may properly be used for this purpose. The reimbursement so made shall be credited to the operating funds available to the Department of Veterans Services.

Effective October 1, 1969

Chapter 234

AN ACT Permitting Bilingual Education.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 102, sub-§ 7, amended. The 3rd sentence of subsection 7 of section 102 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

The basic language of instruction in all schools, public and private, shall be the English language, except as provided in this section.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 102, sub-§ 16, additional. Section 102 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 16, to read as follows:

16. Bilingual education. The commissioner is empowered to cooperate with the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare in carrying out the Bilingual Educational Programs Act; and such other federal programs as may concern the improvement of educational programs designed to meet the educational needs of children in areas having high concentration of children from non-English-speaking families.

Subject to the approval, annually, of the commissioner, the school committee or the school directors of any administrative district having a high concentration of such children may provide early childhood programs involving bilingual education techniques designed to provide children during their pre-school, kindergarten and first and 2nd grades with educational experiences which will enhance their learning and earning potential.

Effective October 1, 1969