

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE
One Hundred and Sixth Legislature
1ST SPECIAL SESSION
JANUARY 2, 1974 TO MARCH 29, 1974
AND BY THE
One Hundred and Seventh Legislature
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 1, 1975 TO JULY 2, 1975

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE REVISED STATUTES OF 1964, TITLE 3,
SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

THE KNOWLTON AND MCLEARY COMPANY
FARMINGTON, MAINE
1975

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
One Hundred and Seventh Legislature

1975

of School Administrative District No. 53 in an amount equal to the maximum allowable tuition charge pursuant to the Revised Statutes, Title 20, section 1291. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Educational and Cultural Services shall reimburse School Administrative District No. 53 pursuant to the provisions of the Revised Statutes, Title 20, section 3713 its allocation for secondary school expenses for the fiscal years 1975-1976 and 1976-1977.

Effective October 1, 1975

CHAPTER 98

AN ACT Relating to Funding of Richmond Schools for 1975.

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

Sec. 1. State grant for school funding. Notwithstanding any provision of statute to the contrary, the Town of Richmond school department is granted for calendar year 1975 only the sum of \$22,000 with the provision that the Richmond citizens vote to match the state appropriation by raising \$11,000 in addition to the state assessed uniform tax and the 2½ mills local leeway appropriation.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$22,000 for distribution to the Richmond school department by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services in calendar year 1975.

1975-76

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Education—General Purpose Aid for Local Schools

All Other	\$22,000
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Effective October 1, 1975

CHAPTER 99

AN ACT to Create the Commission on Education Finance.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the increased cost of education is creating significant pressures on the state budget; and

Whereas, the Legislature must know in greater depth the financial impact of the present school funding law and its effect on local communities and must have a clear understanding of alternatives in funding pursued in other states; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as vitally necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Commission established. There is created the Commission on Education Finance hereinafter known as the "commission."

Sec. 2. Membership. The commission shall be comprised of 15 members as follows: Seven members from the Legislature, 3 to be selected by the President of the Senate and 4 to be selected by the Speaker of the House, the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services and 7 members from the general public to be selected by the Governor.

Sec. 3. Appointment. The members shall be appointed in a timely manner and shall hold their organizational meeting at the call of the Governor, within 30 days of the effective date of this Act and shall choose a chairman and vice-chairman from within their ranks.

Sec. 4. Duties. The commission shall:

1. **Current education financing.** Review current education financing law;
2. **Methods of funding public education.** Review methods of funding public education in other states;
3. **Local appropriation and spending procedures.** Evaluate local appropriation and spending procedures as they reflect on local control of the cost and quality of education;
4. **Reduction of reliance on property tax.** Evaluate alternatives for further reduction of reliance on property tax, such as increased state funding and a circuit breaker tax;
5. **Other studies and evaluations.** Make any other studies and evaluations as necessary to perform the functions assigned above.

Sec. 5. Reports. The commission shall report its findings, together with final drafts of any suggested legislation, to the next regular or special session of the Legislature.

The commission may, in its judgment, file an interim report prior to the conclusion of its labor.

Sec. 6. Compensation of members. Members shall receive compensation at the rate of \$25 per day plus necessary actual expenses.

Sec. 7. Assistance. All executive and legislative departments are directed to give such prompt assistance to the commission as may be required for the fulfillment of its mission.

Sec. 8. Staff. The commission is authorized to retain outside staff and expert assistance as required.

Sec. 9. Acceptance of outside funding. The commission is authorized to accept funds from any agency of the United States, from any private foundation and from any other private source for the purpose of implementing this Act.

Sec. 10. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Commission on Education Finance the sum of \$15,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective July 1, 1975

CHAPTER 100

AN ACT Providing Funds for Review of the State's Civil Service System and the Classification and Compensation Plan.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, efficient personnel administration is fundamental to the efficiency and effectiveness of State Government; and

Whereas, new federal laws; the newly enacted state law granting collective bargaining rights to state employees; increased activity on the part of employee organizations, employee unrest and inflationary trends dramatically emphasize the need for a redesigned classification and compensation plan; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Study. The Department of Finance and Administration is authorized and directed to conduct a review of the classification and compensation system for state employees. The department shall employ qualified management consultants to undertake this review and shall report the results, together with recommendations for any needed statutory changes, to the special session of the 107th Legislature.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$24,000 to carry out the purpose of this Act.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective July 1, 1975

CHAPTER 101

AN ACT to Create a Commission to Revise the Statutes Relating to Juveniles, Including the Statutes Relating to the Juvenile Court.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State of Maine has a long established legislative policy of dealing with juveniles and matters relating to juveniles by specialized statutes and court procedures evidencing a state responsibility; and