

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD:

1580 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT TEACHER RECOGNITION GRANTS AND ESTABLISH A MINIMUM SALARY FOR TEACHERS (REPORTED PURSUANT TO A SPECIAL STUDY COMMISSION OF EDUCATIONAL REFORM)

OTP-AM

HOUSE Enacted
SENATE Enacted
GOV

PUBLIC
CH # 505

H-427	CA	MAJ REP	H	S
H-428	CB	MIN REP		
H-436	CA	NELSON		
H-437	CB	NELSON		

SUMMARY:

The bill would have modified the Teacher Recognition Grants provisions to cover on a prorated basis teachers who work part-time, job share or are on sabbatical leave and provide two grants of up to \$1,000 each in the 1985-86 school year. The bill also would have established a minimum starting salary for teachers of \$14,500 in 1986-87 and \$16,000 in 1987-88, including a maintenance of effort requirement of 5% for 1986-87 and 1987-88. The minimum salary would be funded by block grants from the State. The amounts of the block grants would be added to the State's share under the School Finance Act. The bill also provides an appeal process for the awarding of the teacher recognition grants.

CA-H-427: The Majority Committee Amendment requires two \$1,000 grants in 1985-86, recommends a minimum starting salary of \$13,500 in 1986-87, and requires a \$15,500 minimum starting salary in 1987-88. The amendment also provides for state distribution of block grants in 1986-87 and 1987-88 to be used by local units to meet the minimum starting salary requirement and provides detailed instructions for the computation of the block grants by the commissioner. The amendment clarifies the operation of the appeals panels for recognition grants, requires local units to bargain or reopen bargaining on how to use the block grants for enhancing teacher salaries and repeals the Special Commission to Study the Implementation of Educational Reform.

CB-H-428: The minority report would have provided 2 Teacher Recognition Grants. It differed from the majority report by 1) not establishing a minimum salary, 2) allocating state grants in the second and third year on the basis of the number of students in the unit, 3) granting money on a prorated basis with the maximum going to units which raised teacher salaries 6% per year, and 4) allowing the school units to determine how they would spend the grant monies as long as they spent it on teacher compensation issues.