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Legislative Document

No. 1188

H.P. 866

House of Representatives, March 22, 2021

**An Act To Include Librarians and Career and Technical Education
Teachers in the Minimum \$40,000 Salary Initiative**

(EMERGENCY)

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 18, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth.
Cosponsored by Representatives: GEIGER of Rockland, OSHER of Orono, SALISBURY of Westbrook.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day
4 period in order to ensure that school librarians and career and technical education teachers
5 are eligible for the incremental increase in minimum salary for the school year starting after
6 June 30, 2021; and

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

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

12 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13407,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 343, Pt. UU, §2, is amended
13 to read:

14 **§13407. Minimum salaries beginning in 2020-2021 school year**

15 Each school administrative unit shall establish a minimum salary for certified teachers;
16 librarians as defined in section 15672, subsection 17; and career and technical education
17 teachers as follows:

18 **1. School year 2020-2021.** For the school year starting after June 30, 2020, the
19 minimum salary is \$35,000;

20 **2. School year 2021-2022.** For the school year starting after June 30, 2021, the
21 minimum salary for certified teachers, librarians and career and technical education
22 teachers is \$37,500; and

23 **3. School years beginning in or after 2022.** For the school year starting after June
24 30, 2022, and in each subsequent school year, the minimum salary for certified teachers,
25 librarians and career and technical education teachers is \$40,000.

26 A school administrative unit shall provide to the department annually on or before
27 October 1st the number of certified teachers, librarians and career and technical education
28 teachers eligible for incremental salary increases as defined in section 15689, subsection
29 7-A, paragraph A.

30 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§7-A,** as amended by PL 2019, c. 616, Pt. C, §6,
31 is further amended to read:

32 **7-A. Adjustment for minimum teacher and librarian salary.** Beginning in fiscal
33 year 2020-21, the commissioner shall, in accordance with this subsection, increase the state
34 share of the total allocation to a qualifying school administrative unit by an amount
35 necessary to achieve the minimum salary for certified teachers, librarians and career and
36 technical education teachers established in section 13407.

37 A. As used in this subsection, unless the context otherwise indicates, "qualifying
38 school administrative unit" means a school administrative unit that the commissioner
39 determines to have a locally established salary schedule with a minimum teacher salary
40 of less than \$40,000 in school year 2019-2020. As used in this subsection, unless the
41 context otherwise indicates, "incremental salary increases" means the incremental
42 increases in the salaries of certified teachers, librarians and career and technical

1 education teachers employed by a qualifying school administrative unit in school year
2 2019-2020 necessary to meet the minimum salary requirements of section 13407 from
3 fiscal year 2020-21 to fiscal year 2022-23.

4 B. The commissioner shall allocate the funds appropriated by the Legislature in
5 accordance with the following.

6 (1) The amount of increased funds provided to qualifying school administrative
7 units under this subsection must be the amount necessary to fund the incremental
8 salary increases specified in this subsection.

9 (2) The number of certified teachers, librarians and career and technical education
10 teachers eligible for incremental salary increases in a qualifying school
11 administrative unit for a fiscal year must be based on the information supplied to
12 the department pursuant to section 13407 in that fiscal year.

13 (3) The increased funds provided under this subsection must be issued to
14 qualifying school administrative units as an adjustment to the state school subsidy
15 for distribution to the certified teachers, librarians and career and technical
16 education teachers. Qualifying school administrative units shall use the payments
17 provided under this subsection to provide salary adjustments to those certified
18 teachers, librarians and career and technical education teachers eligible for
19 incremental salary increases. The department shall collect the necessary data to
20 allow the funds to be included in a qualifying school administrative unit's monthly
21 subsidy payments beginning no later than February 1st of each fiscal year.

22 (4) Funding for incremental salary increases in fiscal year 2020-21 must be based
23 on data submitted to the department and certified by school administrative units as
24 of October 1, 2019.

25 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
26 takes effect when approved.

27 SUMMARY

28 This bill includes school librarians and career and technical education teachers in the
29 minimum \$40,000 salary for teachers initiative.