



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 441

S.P. 170

In Senate, February 24, 2015

**An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Local Share of Education
Costs**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta and
Senator: MILLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, GOLDEN of
Lewiston, LAJOIE of Lewiston, ROTUNDO of Lewiston, STEARNS of Guilford.

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,** the proportional share reduction for school administrative units not
4 meeting their required local share of education funding is scheduled to be phased out in
5 fiscal year 2015-16; and

6 **Whereas,** this legislation extends the phase-out; and

7 **Whereas,** fiscal year 2015-16 begins July 1, 2015, which is likely before the
8 expiration of the 90-day period; and

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

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

14 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15690, sub-§1, ¶D,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2013,
15 c. 171, §1, is amended to read:

16 D. In any fiscal year in which the sum of the State's contribution toward the cost of
17 the components of essential programs and services, exclusive of federal funds that are
18 provided and accounted for in the cost of the components of essential programs and
19 services, falls below the State's target of 55% of the cost of the components of
20 essential programs and services, the commissioner shall calculate the percentage of
21 the State's 55% share that is funded by state appropriations and, notwithstanding any
22 other provision of this paragraph, a school administrative unit may not have the
23 amount of its state subsidy limited or reduced under paragraph C if the school
24 administrative unit:

25 (1) In fiscal year 2013-14, raises at least the same percentage of its required local
26 contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to
27 grade 12, including state-funded debt service, as the State's contribution toward
28 its 55% share of the cost of the components of essential programs and services;

29 (2) In fiscal year 2014-15, raises the same percentage of its required local
30 contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to
31 grade 12, including state-funded debt service, as the State's contribution toward
32 its 55% share of the cost of the components of essential programs and services
33 plus 33% of the difference between that percentage and 100% of its required
34 local contribution; ~~and~~

35 (3) In fiscal year 2015-16, raises the same percentage of its required local
36 contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to
37 grade 12, including state-funded debt service, as the State's contribution toward
38 its 55% share of the cost of the components of essential programs and services
39 plus ~~66%~~ 49.5% of the difference between that percentage and 100% of its
40 required local contribution;

