



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 501

H.P. 330

House of Representatives, February 11, 2025

An Act to Fairly Fund School Administrative Units for Economically Disadvantaged Students

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 6, 2025. 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 "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Representative ARCHER of Saco, Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin and Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, DHALAC of South Portland, LEE of Auburn, MOONEN of Portland, MURPHY of Scarborough, ROEDER of Bangor, SALISBURY of Westbrook, TUELL of East Machias.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15675, sub-§2, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. C,
3 §30, is amended to read:

4 A. ~~An~~ Until the beginning of fiscal year 2026-27, an additional weight of .15. The
5 number of economically disadvantaged students for each school administrative unit is
6 determined by multiplying the number of resident pupils in the most recent calendar
7 year by the most recent available elementary free or reduced-price meals percentage.
8 The elementary free or reduced-price meals percentage may be applied to determine
9 the number of economically disadvantaged students in the unit's secondary grades; ~~and~~

10 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15675, sub-§2, ¶A-2** is enacted to read:

11 A-2. Beginning fiscal year 2026-27, an additional weight of .25. The number of
12 economically disadvantaged students for each school administrative unit is determined
13 by multiplying the number of resident pupils in the most recent calendar year by the
14 most recent available elementary free or reduced-price meals percentage. The
15 elementary free or reduced-price meals percentage may be applied to determine the
16 number of economically disadvantaged students in the unit's secondary grades; and

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill increases the weighted count in the school funding formula for economically
19 disadvantaged students under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act from 0.15
20 to 0.25 effective beginning fiscal year 2026-27.