



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1170

S.P. 356

In Senate, March 7, 2019

An Act To Raise the Floor of State Education Funding

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LAWRENCE of York.
Cosponsored by Senator CHENETTE of York, Representative KESCHL of Belgrade and
Senators: DOW of Lincoln, FOLEY of York, MIRAMANT of Knox, VITELLI of Sagadahoc,
Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, HEPLER of Woolwich, HYMANSON of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§1, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. C,
3 §49, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 A. The school administrative unit's total cost of education, as calculated pursuant to
5 section 15688, subsection 1, multiplied by 15%; and

6 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§1-C** is enacted to read:

7 **1-C. Adjustments to state contributions to member municipalities in certain**
8 **school administrative units.** A member municipality of a school administrative unit
9 must be guaranteed a minimum state contribution of 15% of the municipality's total cost
10 of education, as calculated pursuant to section 15688, subsection 2, which must be made
11 to the school administrative unit and deducted from the municipality's required
12 contribution. The minimum state contribution attributable to a member municipality
13 pursuant to this subsection must be calculated prior to determining whether the school
14 administrative unit is eligible for the minimum state allocation pursuant to subsection 1.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill changes the formula for determining the minimum state allocation for a
17 school administrative unit to be the unit's total cost of education, as adjusted, multiplied
18 by 15% or the unit's special education costs, as adjusted, whichever is greater. This bill
19 also guarantees a member municipality a minimum state contribution of 15% of the
20 municipality's total cost of education, as adjusted, and requires the funds to be paid to the
21 school administrative unit and deducted from the municipality's required contribution.