

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Record**  
**House of Representatives**  
**One Hundred and Twenty-Seventh Legislature**  
**State of Maine**

**Daily Edition**

**Second Regular Session**

beginning January 6, 2016

beginning at page H-1188

NAY - Austin, Battle, Black, Buckland, Chace, Crafts, Dunphy L, Edgecomb, Espling, Farrin, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Gillway, Greenwood, Guerin, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Hawke, Head, Hilliard, Hobart, Kinney J, Kinney M, Lockman, Long, Lyford, Malaby, Marean, McClellan, McElwee, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pouliot, Prescott, Reed, Sanderson, Sawicki, Sirocki, Stetkis, Theriault, Timberlake, Timmons, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Ward, White, Winsor, Wood.

ABSENT - Bates, Bickford, Higgins, Wallace.

Yes, 92; No, 55; Absent, 4; Excused, 0.

92 having voted in the affirmative and 55 voted in the negative, with 4 being absent, and accordingly the Veto was **SUSTAINED**.

The Following Communication: (S.C. 981)

**STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001**

April 12, 2016

The 127th Legislature of the State of Maine

State House

Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 127th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1475, "An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies."

Rather than address shortcomings of the Legislative budget cycle or problems with the State's consolidation laws, this bill lays out a recipe by which local school administration units would be encouraged to spend any unanticipated funding received from the State rather than to offset the local share and provide property tax relief. Despite all of the talk in Augusta about the need to reduce property taxes, this bill introduces a new barrier to lowering the property tax burden and encourages new spending.

Voting on a school budget is one cornerstone of local control that provides transparency and accountability at the local level. By placing a mechanism in law that would silence local debate in the event additional resources become available, this bill erodes the rights of property tax payers, who currently have a say in how funds are used and whether they would prefer that any additional dollars from the State reduce the local share of the cost of education. This Administration will not support such an affront.

The core problem this bill seeks to address seems to be the mismatch in timing between when the biennial budget is finalized and when local budgets for school administrative units are approved. It is within the Legislature's purview to make changes to the biennial budget process.

Options include switching to a calendar-based fiscal year, requiring that the budget be passed earlier in the Session, moving the entire budget process to the Second Regular Session of an elected Legislature, or any combination of the above. The Administration is willing to discuss any serious proposal to change the State's budgeting process. Sadly, this bill would fundamentally alter local control for school budgets to compensate for the shortcomings of the Legislative process.

If the Legislature is interested in reexamining the way we run our State government in service of the communities, the Administration stands ready to assist. That is not what this bill does; therefore I cannot support it and I return it to you unsigned and vetoed. I urge you to sustain it.

Sincerely,  
S/Paul R. LePage  
Governor

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

**READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE** in concurrence.

The accompanying item An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 573) (L.D. 1475)

(C. "A" S-388)

In Senate, April 12, 2016, this Bill, having been returned by the Governor, together with objections to the same, pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Maine, after reconsideration, the Senate proceeded to vote on the question: 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?'

27 voted in favor and 8 against, and 27 being more than 2/3 of the members present and voting, accordingly it was the vote of the Senate that the Bill become law and the veto was overridden.

After reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question, 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' A roll call was taken.

The SPEAKER: The pending question before the House is 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

**ROLL CALL NO. 614V**

YEA - Alley, Babbidge, Battle, Beavers, Beck, Beebe-Center, Black, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Buckland, Burstein, Campbell J, Campbell R, Chace, Chapman, Chenette, Chipman, Cooper, Corey, Daughtry, Davitt, DeChant, Devin, Dillingham, Dion, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy L, Dunphy M, Edgecomb, Espling, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fecteau, Foley, Fowle, Fredette, Frey, Gattine, Gerrish, Gideon, Gilbert, Gillway, Ginzler, Golden, Goode, Grant, Greenwood, Grohman, Guerin, Hamann, Harlow, Harrington, Hawke, Head, Herbig, Herrick, Hickman, Hilliard, Hobart, Hobbins, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kinney J, Kinney M, Kornfield, Kruger, Kumiega, Lajoie, Long, Longstaff, Luchini, Maker, Malaby, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, McCabe, McClellan, McCreight, McElwee, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, Morrison, Nadeau, Nutting, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Peterson, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pierce T, Pouliot, Powers, Prescott, Rotundo, Russell, Rykerson, Sanborn, Sanderson, Saucier, Sawicki, Schneck, Seavey, Sherman, Short, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Stuckey, Sukeforth, Tepler, Theriault, Timberlake, Timmons, Tipping-Spitz, Tucker, Tuell, Turner, Verow, Wadsworth, Ward, Warren, Welsh, White, Winsor, Wood, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Austin, Crafts, Farrin, Hanington, Hanley, Lockman, Lyford, Reed, Sirocki, Vachon.

ABSENT - Bates, Bickford, Higgins, Wallace.

Yes, 137; No, 10; Absent, 4; Excused, 0.

137 having voted in the affirmative and 10 voted in the negative, with 4 being absent, and accordingly the Veto was **NOT SUSTAINED** in concurrence.