

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1210.

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[House, No. 1096, as amended.]

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-seven.

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### AN ACT

To authorize a State Appropriation for the Support of Public Schools.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The state shall annually apportion and  
2 distribute to the cities and towns of the Commonwealth,  
3 to be used for the support of public schools only, the  
4 proceeds of a tax levied upon all taxable property in the  
5 Commonwealth at the rate of one mill on the dollar, said  
6 tax to be assessed and collected in the same manner as  
7 other state taxes are assessed and collected. The appor-  
8 tionment and distribution of the aforesaid proceeds shall  
9 be to the several cities and towns in proportion to the  
10 average attendance in the public schools for the school  
11 year preceding such apportionment and distribution ; and

12 for the purpose of this act a city or town shall be credited  
13 with the attendance of such of its pupils as may have at-  
14 tended a public school in another city or town, provided  
15 the first-mentioned city or town, or the state, pays tuition  
16 therefor, in accordance with the provisions of chapter  
17 four hundred and thirty-six and section six of chapter  
18 four hundred and ninety-eight of the acts of eighteen  
19 hundred and ninety-four, and of chapter two hundred and  
20 twelve of the acts of eighteen hundred and ninety-five.  
21 All facts of attendance for the purposes of this act shall  
22 be determined in accordance with the returns required  
23 by law to be made by school committees to the state  
24 board of education.

1     SECT. 2. The proceeds of the tax shall be appor-  
2 tioned by the secretary of the board of education and  
3 the treasurer and receiver-general in the manner provided  
4 in the preceding section, and paid over by the treasurer  
5 and receiver-general to the treasurers of the several cities  
6 and towns on the twenty-fifth day of January each year  
7 thereafter.

1     SECT. 3. The proceeds apportioned and distributed  
2 to the cities and towns as provided in section two shall  
3 be used to increase the salaries of teachers in the towns  
4 and cities benefited, until the salary of each teacher in  
5 regular employ shall be not less than four hundred and  
6 fifty dollars annually, or its equivalent; and any balance  
7 remaining shall be used for transportation of school  
8 children, fuel for the schools and care of fires and school  
9 rooms.

1     SECT. 4. No such apportionment and distribution  
2 shall be made to a city or town which has not maintained

3 a school as required by section one of chapter forty-four  
4 of the Public Statutes; or which, if containing the num-  
5 ber of families or householders required by section two  
6 of said chapter, has not maintained, for at least thirty-  
7 six weeks during the year, exclusive of vacations, a high  
8 school such as is mentioned therein: *provided*, that the  
9 Punchard free school of the town of Andover shall be  
10 considered such a high school as is provided for in sec-  
11 tion two of chapter forty-four; or which has not made  
12 the returns required by sections six and eight of chapter  
13 forty-six of the Public Statutes, and complied with the  
14 laws relating to truancy; or which, aside from the tax  
15 provided in section one of this act, has not raised by  
16 taxation for the wages and board of teachers, transporta-  
17 tion of school children, fuel for the schools, and care of  
18 fires and school rooms during the school year embraced  
19 in the last annual returns, a sum not less than five dollars  
20 for each person between the ages of five and fifteen years  
21 belonging to such city or town on the first day of May of  
22 said school year.

1   SECT. 5. It shall be the duty of the state board of  
2 education to notify the treasurer of all cases of failure to  
3 comply with the requirements and conditions specified  
4 in section four of this act.

1   SECT. 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of  
2 May next following its passage.

