

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1237.

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[House, No. 1210, as passed to be engrossed.]

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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  
2 and distribute to the cities and towns of the Com-  
3 monwealth, to be used for the support of public  
4 schools only, the proceeds of a tax levied upon all  
5 taxable property in the Commonwealth at the rate  
6 of one mill on the dollar, said tax to be assessed  
7 and collected in the same manner as other state  
8 taxes are assessed and collected. The apportion-  
9 ment and distribution of the aforesaid proceeds  
10 shall be to the several cities and towns in pro-

11 portion to the average attendance in the public  
12 schools for the school year preceding such appor-  
13 tionment and distribution; and for the purposes  
14 of this act a city or town shall be credited with  
15 the attendance of such of its pupils as may have  
16 attended a public school in another city or town,  
17 provided the first-mentioned city or town, or the  
18 Commonwealth, pays tuition therefor, in accord-  
19 ance with the provisions of chapter four hundred  
20 and thirty-six and section six of chapter four  
21 hundred and ninety-eight of the acts of the year  
22 eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and of chapter  
23 two hundred and twelve of the acts of the year  
24 eighteen hundred and ninety-five. All facts  
25 relative to attendance for the purposes of this act  
26 shall be determined in accordance with the returns  
27 required by law to be made by school committees  
28 to the state board of education.

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

1     SECT. 3. The proceeds apportioned and dis-  
2 tributed to the cities and towns as provided in  
3 section two shall be used exclusively for the  
4 wages and board of teachers, transportation of

5 school children, fuel for the schools, and care of  
6 fires and school rooms.

1     SECT. 4. No such apportionment and distri-  
2 bution shall be made to a city or town which  
3 has not maintained schools as required by section  
4 one of chapter forty-four of the Public Statutes,  
5 and amendments thereof; or which has not made  
6 the returns required by sections six and eight of  
7 chapter forty-six of the Public Statutes; or which,  
8 aside from the tax provided in section one of this  
9 act, has not raised by taxation for the wages and  
10 board of teachers, transportation of school chil-  
11 dren, fuel for the schools, and care of fires and  
12 schoolrooms during the school year embraced in  
13 the last annual returns, a sum not less than five  
14 dollars for each person between the ages of five  
15 and fifteen years belonging to such city or town  
16 on the first day of May of said school year.

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

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

