

[No. 133, A.]

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CHAPTER 420.

AN ACT to amend section 496, revised statutes, relating to free high schools, as amended by chapter 245, laws of 1879, and chapter 273, laws of 1883.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows :

SECTION 1. Section 496, revised statutes, relating to free high schools, as amended by chapter 245, laws of 1879, and chapter 273, laws of 1883, is hereby amended by striking out the words, "during the first five years after such high school is established," where they first occur in said section, and insert in place thereof, the word, "annually," so that said section, when amended, will read as follows: Section 496. Any high school district which shall have established a free high school, according to the provisions of these statutes, and shall have maintained the same for not less than three months in any school year, shall be entitled to receive from the general fund of the state, annually, one-half the amount actually expended for instruction in the high school of such district, during such school year, over and above the amount required by law to be expended for common school purposes, but not to exceed in one year five hundred dollars to one district. To obtain such aid, the high school board, or, in cities not under a county superintendent, the president and secretary of the board of education and the treasurer, shall, on or before the first day of November, report in duplicate to the state superintendent, under their oaths, the amount actually expended for instruction, during the previous school year, specifying the several items thereof, with the date and object of each, fully. Thereupon the state superintendent shall fix the amount to be paid such high school district, and certify the same to the secretary of state, with one of such reports annexed. On such certificate, at any time after the first day of December, the same shall be paid to the district treasurer out of

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the state treasury; but the whole amount so paid shall not exceed the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars in any one year; and if more be demanded by such districts, they shall be paid proportionally. The secretary of state shall annually include and apportion in the state tax all such sums as shall have been so paid, in addition to all other sums to be levied for the year. Hereafter, when by any neglect or omission, any free high school shall fail to have apportioned to it its share of state aid under this act, the state superintendent may, after the time hereinbefore fixed for such apportionment by him, fix an amount ten per cent. less than the amount which such free high school would have been entitled to, had it complied with the provisions of this act, and certify the same to the secretary of state, with the report of such district or districts annexed thereto, and the secretary shall thereupon draw his warrant for such amount or amounts in favor of such district or districts. And each successive year the school superintendent shall apportion among the free high schools of the state, only the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, less such sum or sums as may have been certified by him to the secretary of state under the provisions of this act subsequent to his last regular apportionment.

Repealed.

SECTION 2. Chapter 22, laws of 1882, and chapter 302, laws of 1883, and all other acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 11, 1885.