

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPORT "A"

R 3/27

L.D. 245

Date: 4-3-09

(Filing No. S- 31)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

124TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 86, L.D. 245, Bill, "An Act To Calculate the School Year by Number of Hours"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 1, line 16 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "by the department" and inserting the following: 'pursuant to subsection 1-A'

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph A (page 1, lines 21 to 23 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'A. The commissioner may reduce or waive the minimum number of days required on application from a school board. For schools with an alternative calendar approved under subsection 1-A, the commissioner may reduce or waive the minimum number of hours required on application from the school board. Notwithstanding subsection 1-A, for schools operating on a calendar based on days, the commissioner may authorize an equivalent number of hours to be substituted for days for a limited time period upon application from a school board. The application must be supported in writing with a statement of the reasons for the request.'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. 20-A MRSa §4801, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Alternative school calendar based on equivalent hours. A school board may submit a proposal to the commissioner for a school calendar based on hours. The cumulative hours for the calendar year must equal or exceed the number of school hours in a 180-day school year. The cumulative hours used for instruction must equal or exceed the number of hours used for instruction in 175 school days. Prior to approving a proposal for an alternative calendar, the commissioner shall determine that:

A. The proposed calendar has been distributed or otherwise made available for review by parents, teachers and school employees;

B. The school board has held a public hearing on the proposed calendar;

C. The school board has met and consulted with teachers and other employees; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 245

LR 79(02)

An Act To Calculate the School Year by Number of Hours

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with the rulemaking and approval process can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.