

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 816

H.P. 552

House of Representatives, March 3, 2009

**An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Education To Issue
Separate Subsidy Checks to Each Municipality in an Alternative
Organizational Structure**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.
Cosponsored by Representative McFADDEN of Dennysville and
Representatives: BROWNE of Vassalboro, FINCH of Fairfield, FLETCHER of Winslow,
TRINWARD of Waterville, Senators: SHERMAN of Aroostook, SMITH of Piscataquis.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15689-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §61 and affected by §§72 and 74 and c. 12, Pt. WW, §18, is amended to read:

1. Schedules of payment of unit allocation. The commissioner shall authorize state subsidy payments to the school administrative units to be made in accordance with time schedules set forth in sections 15005, 15689-D and 15901 to 15910. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary and beginning in fiscal year 2009-10, after notification pursuant to subsection 2, the commissioner shall issue to each member entity within an alternative organizational structure a separate subsidy check representing the amount calculated for allocation to that member entity within the alternative organizational structure.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15689-B, sub-§2, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §61 and affected by §§72 and 74 and c. 12, Pt. WW, §18, is amended to read:

A. The commissioner shall annually, prior to February 1st, notify each school board of the estimated amount to be allocated to the school administrative unit. Notwithstanding any other law and beginning in fiscal year 2009-10, the commissioner shall notify in writing the governing body and the superintendent of each alternative organizational structure of the computation and the estimated total amount to be allocated to the alternative organizational structure and to each member entity within the alternative organizational structure.

SUMMARY

Current law requires the Commissioner of Education to notify school boards of the estimated amount of state subsidy to be allocated to school administrative units. This bill requires the Commissioner of Education to also provide the governing bodies and the superintendent of each alternative organizational structure with the computation and the amount of the allocation of state subsidy that the commissioner has calculated for the alternative organizational structure and each member entity in the alternative organizational structure and requires that the commissioner issue separate subsidy checks to each of the member entities within the alternative organizational structure.