

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SMC

MAJORITY

L.D. 898

Date: 4/23/19

(Filing No. S- 59)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

129TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 264, L.D. 898, Bill, "An Act To Provide for a Professional Wage and Support for New Educators"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13012-A, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2017, c. 381, §14, is further amended to read:

4. Requirements. If a A school administrative unit employs may not employ a conditionally certified teacher or educational specialist unless it has a locally designed peer support and mentoring system as described in section 13015-A. For a conditional certificate issued under subsection 1, paragraph A or B, the school administrative unit shall for at least the first year 2 years of employment, or longer if determined to be necessary, and, for a conditional certificate issued under subsection 1, paragraph C, the school administrative unit shall for at least the first year of employment, or longer if determined to be necessary:

A. Ensure that the conditionally certified teacher or educational specialist receives high-quality professional development that is sustained, intensive and classroom-focused in order to have a positive and lasting impact on classroom instruction while teaching; and

B. Provide a program of intensive supervision for the conditionally certified teacher that consists of structured guidance and regular ongoing support or a mentoring program, which is separate from any student-teacher requirement that may be required under another authority.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 3 and 4 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §13015-A is enacted to read:

§13015-A. Peer support and mentoring system

1. Purpose. The purpose of a peer support and mentoring system is to:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 A. Provide strong support services and mentoring programs that are sustained,
2 intensive and classroom-focused in order to have a positive and lasting effect on
3 classroom instruction and develop good teaching and classroom management skills
4 for teachers certified for less than 5 years and teachers with conditional certificates;

5 B. Provide assistance to and review for all individuals who are candidates for a
6 higher level certificate or who are teaching under a waiver of the requirement to be
7 certified under this chapter; and

8 C. Assist all teachers in becoming better teachers.

9 A peer support and mentoring system is separate from local practices and procedures
10 regarding the supervision and evaluation of a teacher for retention by a school
11 administrative unit. The system must include opportunities for all educators to share,
12 learn and continually improve their practices as educators in collaboration with peers.
13 Peer support and mentoring must be formative in nature and be for the sole purpose of
14 ongoing professional growth for educators.'

15 Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 7 and 8.

16 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 11.

17 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
18 section number to read consecutively.

19 SUMMARY

20 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes the
21 requirement that a support and mentoring system must be approved by the Commissioner
22 of Education, and it clarifies that the support and mentoring system is a peer support and
23 mentoring system and that it must include opportunities for educators to share, learn and
24 improve their practice in collaboration with peers, be formative in nature and be for the
25 sole purpose of ongoing professional growth for educators.

26 This amendment also removes the provisions of the bill on teacher preparation
27 programs and salary supplements for approved support and mentoring systems for teacher
28 certification and the appropriations for the Educators for Maine Program under the
29 Finance Authority of Maine.



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 898

LR 171(02)

An Act To Provide for a Professional Wage and Support for New Educators

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-59)

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund
 Future biennium cost increase - School Administrative Units

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation requires local school administrative units (SAU's) to increase the minimum salary for certified teachers to \$40,000 beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. The Department of Education has estimated the cost of this provision to be \$10,000,000 for that school year. This amount does not include, and the bill does not address, any additional costs to SAU's to adjust salary schedules for certified teachers whose salaries will be above the \$40,000 minimum in fiscal year 2020-21 when teachers whose salaries are below the \$40,000 threshold will be increased to \$40,000. The Governor's proposed budget for the 2020-2021 biennium, LD 1001, includes a General Fund appropriation of \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2020-21 for the cost of increasing the minimum salary for certified teachers to \$40,000 per year.

This bill requires the Department of Education to determine the amount of state funds necessary to fund 100% of the increase in the minimum salary for teachers in fiscal year 2020-21, 66% of the increase in fiscal year 2021-22 and 33% of the increase in fiscal year 2022-23 and report those amounts to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than December 15, 2019. The bill also provides that the committee shall report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to provide the necessary funding. Unless the required funding for fiscal year 2020-21 is approved and enacted by the 129th Legislature, either in the 2020-2021 biennial budget or other legislation, the full cost of this measure will be borne by SAU's. For any future fiscal year that the State does not fund the additional cost of this minimum salary requirement SAU's will be required to fund 100% of the cost.

The increase in salaries as a result of this legislation will increase the employer contribution for the normal cost component of the Maine Public Employers Retirement System (MainePERS). That rate for teachers for fiscal year 2020-21 is 4.16%. When this rate is applied to the projected increase in teacher salaries the additional amount SAU's will have to pay to MainePERS for the normal cost of teacher retirement is estimated to be \$416,000 in fiscal year 2020-21.