

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1159

(Filing No. H-443 )

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 827, L.D. 1159, Bill, "An Act Granting Student Rights and Requiring School Boards to Adopt Written Policies Regarding Student Rights and Responsibilities"

Amend the bill by striking out all of the title and inserting in its place the following:

'An Act Requiring School Boards to Adopt Written Policies Regarding Student Rights and Responsibilities'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'20-A MRSA §1001-A is enacted to read:

**§1001-A. Written policies for student rights and responsibilities**

Each local school board, in consultation with teachers, students, school personnel and parents or guardians, shall develop and adopt written policies setting forth the rights and responsibilities of students with regard to students' rights of free speech, freedom from unreasonable searches and other rights and responsibilities as the local board may determine appropriate. The school board shall review the policies at least once every 2 years and, if appropriate, amend the policies in consultation with teachers, students, school personnel and parents or guardians.

The school board shall annually make the written policies available to all students, in a written form, such as a student handbook or similar publication.

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### FISCAL NOTE

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This bill will require local school boards to adopt written policies to clarify student rights and to make those policies available in written form to all students. The additional costs incurred by local school units to meet these requirements will fall under the school mandate laws which require the State to pay 100% of these costs during the first 2 years. While the cost to individual school units will not be significant, additional General Fund appropriations will be required to pay for the statewide total of these local costs. The amount of the appropriations, however, cannot be determined at this time.'

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### STATEMENT OF FACT

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The amendment deletes the specific minimum standards for student rights, but continues to require that each local school board have written policies setting forth student rights and responsibilities. The amendment requires biennial review of the written policies and clarifies that the policies must be made available each year to all students.

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Education  
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6/8/89

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