

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1335

(Filing No. H-524)

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 957, L.D. 1335, "Resolve, to Establish Statewide Secondary School Competency Examinations"

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

'Resolve, to Establish Statewide Secondary School Competency Examinations and Student Intervention Strategies'

Further amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Standardized competency examinations. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall undertake a study of standardized competency examinations in order to determine what standardized mathematics and English competency examinations shall be used in secondary schools as graduation requirements. The study and recommendations made in the commissioner's report shall include the following:

1. A method to ensure that the same examinations are used statewide;
2. The projected budget needs of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to ensure that the competency examinations are fully funded by the State;
3. Guidelines for the use of the examinations, including exceptions from the examination requirements for special education and other students, as appropriate; and
4. A schedule for implementation of the competency examinations to ensure mandatory statewide implementation; and be it further

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3 **Sec. 2. Student intervention assistance. Resolved:** That the
5 commissioner conduct a study of the best method of implementing a
7 program to identify academically at-risk students and to assist
9 school administrative units in providing assistance to identified
11 students to ensure they acquire the necessary competencies prior
13 to graduation. The study and recommendations made in the
15 commissioner's report shall include the following:

17 1. A method to utilize the results of the 8th Grade Maine
19 Educational Assessment Examination to identify students needing
21 intervention assistance;

23 2. Guidelines for use by school administrative units in
25 providing intervention assistance to identified students;

27 3. Identification of a test or method of assessing
29 identified students to determine whether they have attained the
31 competencies required for graduation or whether additional
intervention assistance is required;

33 4. The projected budget needs of the department to ensure
35 that intervention assistance is fully funded by the State; and

37 5. A schedule for implementation of an intervention
39 assistance program beginning with initial use of 8th grade
41 testing to develop student intervention assistance plans and
43 reaching the stage of applying graduation competencies testing or
45 assessment to students for whom intervention assistance has been
47 provided when those students reach graduation age; and be it
further

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the commissioner shall submit
a report, including any necessary implementing legislation, to
the 114th Legislature by December 1, 1989.

FISCAL NOTE

 The Department of Educational and Cultural Services will be
able to absorb within existing resources the cost of undertaking
the studies and the report required by this resolve. However,
additional General Fund appropriations will be required by the
department to fund mandatory statewide testing and an
intervention assistance program. The amount and timing of these
additional appropriations cannot be determined until the
department submits the schedules for implementation as part of
its report which is due by December 1, 1989.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment retains the provisions of the original resolve requiring the development of graduation competency testing in English and mathematics. The amendment adds a requirement that the Department of Educational and Cultural Services develop a method of identifying students at risk of not graduating in the 8th grade and of providing intervention assistance to assist those students to develop the competencies required to graduate. The methodology developed shall be made available for use by local school units and implementation shall be funded by the State.

Reported by the Minority of the Committee on Education
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House
6/14/89 (Filing No. H-524)