MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2457

H.P. 1788

House of Representatives, March 28, 1990

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative KILKELLY of Wiscasset.

Cosponsored by Representative PARADIS of Frenchville, Senator ESTES of York and Representative BURKE of Vassalboro.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act Concerning State Education Mandate Waivers.

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)



Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted 2 as emergencies; and

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Whereas, reductions in school funding increase the property tax burden on local taxpayers; and

Whereas, state mandates can not be implemented without adequate funding; and

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Whereas, a hardship is created for local taxpayers when the State imposes mandates for which the State does not provide funding; and

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Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

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Sec. 1. State mandate waivers; criteria and procedures. Commissioner of Education shall establish, by rule, criteria and procedures for granting waivers of state mandates as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2, subsection 3. In developing criteria and procedures and implementing existing procedures for waivers of any state mandates under Title 20-A, the commissioner shall consult with the following individuals: one superintendent of a school administrative unit appointed by a statewide association of superintendents; one member of a school board appointed by a statewide association of school boards; one principal of an elementary school; one principal of a secondary school appointed by a statewide association of principals; and one nonclassroom teacher and one classroom teacher appointed by a statewide association of teachers. Criteria and rules must be ready for public hearing and comment within 60 days of the effective date of this Act.

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Sec. 2. Duration of waivers. Waivers are effective for a 12-month period. Upon expiration of a waiver, an applicant may reapply for another waiver. Reapplications are subject to the same review as initial applications.

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Sec. 3. Repeal. This Act is repealed on September 1, 1992.

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Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires the Commissioner of Education with the advice of members of the statewide association of teachers, principals, superintendents and school boards to establish criteria and procedures for granting waivers of state mandates. Waivers are for a 12-month period and are subject to reapplication and review. This bill is repealed on September 1, 1992.