

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OK
R. of S.

L.D. 142

(Filing No. S-85)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 79, L.D. 142, Bill, "An Act to Revise Transition Services for Disabled Students"

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 §7803-A is enacted to read:

§7803-A. Transition services

Each school administrative unit shall provide an annual statement of the transition services needed by a handicapped youth in transition enrolled in that unit. The statement of transition services must be provided to all handicapped youth in transition who are 16 years of age or older and enrolled in school and may be provided to younger students when the school administrative unit finds it necessary. When appropriate, a cooperative agreement among the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Labor must be included as part of the annual statement describing the responsibilities of and coordination required by those agencies. If a cooperating agency fails to provide agreed-upon services, the school administrative unit is responsible for reconvening the cooperating agencies for the purposes of developing alternative strategies to meet the transition objectives. This section does not require any school administrative unit to provide noneducational services to students.

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FISCAL NOTE

The costs associated with developing statements of transition services needed and cooperative agreements can be absorbed with existing resources of the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Labor.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This amendment retains the requirement that school administrative units provide a yearly statement of transition services needed by youths with disabilities in transition from school to the community, including, where appropriate, a statement of responsibilities of cooperating state agencies. The amendment clarifies that the statement of services must be provided for all youths with disabilities in transition who are 16 or older and enrolled in school and may be provided at a younger age. If agreed-on transition services are not provided by any of the cooperating state agencies, the amendment makes the school responsible for reconvening the agencies and developing a strategy to provide the necessary services. The amendment also clarifies that school administrative units are not responsible for providing noneducational services.

Reported by Senator Brawn for the Committee on Education.
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(4/23/91) (Filing No. S-85)