

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OK
R. O. P.

L.D. 680

(Filing No. S- 205)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 209, L.D. 680, Bill, "An Act to Enhance the Role of the State Board of Education"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

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

Whereas, the Legislature believes that it is the responsibility of the State to provide an education that will help all children in the State develop the knowledge and skills they need to become productive and fulfilled members of society; and

Whereas, our children will face a world that is increasingly complex and competitive in the areas of family, community, government, stewardship and employment; and

Whereas, the Legislature finds that tomorrow's challenges demand that we make significant changes for our children today, including the development of an education system structured to keep up with the rapidly changing world; and

Whereas, the Legislature believes that an education system based on learning results to be accomplished will provide greater and more equal opportunities for children in this State to prepare themselves for the challenges they will face as adults; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Whereas, this legislation establishes a task force to develop goals and a plan for an education system based on student achievement; and

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,

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §405, sub-§3, ¶O, as amended by PL 1989, c. 698, §11 and affected by §76, is further amended to read:

O. Recommend funds to the Bureau of the Budget for equalization of educational opportunity; and

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §405, sub-§3, ¶Q, as amended by PL 1985, c. 797, §10, is further amended to read:

Q. Serve as state agency for administering federal funds for construction of school facilities and for vocational education; and

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §405, sub-§3, ¶S is enacted to read:

S. Develop long-range education goals and standards for school performance and student performance to improve learning results and recommend to the commissioner and to the Legislature a plan for achieving those goals and standards.

Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §405, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

6. Recommendations to Legislature. The state board shall recommend to the Legislature any new legislation or amendments to existing legislation for the efficient conduct of the public schools and for achieving the education and performance goals and standards and the plan for the public schools developed in accordance with subsection 3, paragraph S.

Sec. 5. Task force established. The Task Force on Learning Results, referred to in this legislation as the "task force," is established to assist the State Board of Education in performing the duties set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 405, subsection 3, paragraph S.

2 **Sec. 6. Task force membership.** The task force consists of 15
to 20 members, broadly representative of the regions and citizens
4 of the State, appointed by the State Board of Education in
consultation with the Joint Standing Committee on Education. The
6 chair of the state board shall serve as chair of the task force.

8 **Sec. 7. Duties.** The task force shall:

10 1. Develop goals and a 5-year plan for an education system
based on learning achievements; and

12 2. Develop criteria for student learning derived from the
standards established by the State's common core of learning upon
14 which students and schools will be evaluated.

16 The task force shall establish 2 subcommittees to carry out
the duties described in this section.

18 **Sec. 8. Report.** The task force shall present its report on
20 the goals and the 5-year plan to the State Board of Education by
February 1, 1994. The state board shall present the report,
22 together with any recommended legislation, to the Joint Standing
Committee on Education by February 15, 1994.

24 The task force shall also present a preliminary progress
26 report on the development of standards for student achievement to
the state board, which shall present the report and any other
28 findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
having jurisdiction over education matters by December 1, 1994.
30 The task force shall present its findings on standards for
student achievement to the State Board of Education, which shall
32 present the report, together with any recommended legislation, to
the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
34 jurisdiction over education matters by March 1, 1996.

36 **Sec. 9. Staff assistance.** The task force may receive staff and
professional assistance from the Department of Education, the
38 Maine Technical College System, the University of Maine System,
the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education, the Maine
40 Teachers Association, the Maine School Management Association,
the Maine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Legislative
42 Council and other sources.

44 **Sec. 10. Funding; compensation.** Interested persons and
organizations may provide outside sources of funding to finance
46 the activities of the task force. The Legislative Council shall
administer outside funds acquired for the conduct of the task
48 force. Expenditures may not be incurred that have an impact on
the General Fund. Expenditures may not be incurred relative to

2 the task force until the funding from outside sources has been
received by the Legislative Council. Members of the task force
4 are entitled to expenses from that funding upon application to
the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

6 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.
8

10 FISCAL NOTE

12 The State Board of Education can absorb the costs related to
the preparation of a long-range plan related to learning results
14 within existing budgeted resources.

16 This bill also establishes the Task Force on Learning
Results and allows the Legislative Council to accept and
18 administer outside sources of funding to conduct the activities
of the task force. If no outside funding is available, the task
20 force may not incur expenditures. In particular, General Fund
expenditures are prohibited. The bill further provides that
22 staffing and professional assistance may be provided by several
agencies, including the Department of Education, the University
24 of Maine System, the Maine Technical College System and the
Legislative Council. The restriction against the use of General
26 Fund money may prohibit these agencies from providing this
assistance to the task force.
28

30 STATEMENT OF FACT

32 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment establishes
the Task Force on Learning Results and charges the task force
34 with developing long-range educational goals and standards for
school performance and student performance based on learning
36 results. The task force must recommend to the State Board of
Education a plan for achieving those goals and standards. The
38 amendment also adds an emergency preamble, an emergency clause
and a fiscal note to the bill.

Reported by Senator O'Dea for the Committee on Education.
Reproduced and Distributed Pursuant to Senate Rule 12.
(5/25/93) (Filing No. S-205)