

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 66

DATE: March 29, 1996

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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Reported by: Report "C" of the Committee.

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
117TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 36, L.D. 66, Bill, "An Act to Establish Choices for Parents and Guardians in their Children's Education"

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

**'Sec. 1. Public school choice pilot sites.** The Commissioner of Education shall designate 2 pilot sites, one in a rural area of the State and one in an urban area, to implement a public school choice program. The 2 public school choice pilot sites must be chosen from among regional, collaborative demonstration sites established to allow schools in partnerships to demonstrate the efficiencies of consolidating the school business functions of payroll, purchasing, accounts payable, food service management and other appropriate business services. The 2 public school choice pilot sites are eligible to apply for any innovative educational grant funds that may be provided by the Department of Education. The regional, collaborative demonstration sites are not required to participate in the choice program.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

**'FISCAL NOTE**

The bill requires the Commissioner of Education to designate 2 public school choice pilot sites. Pilot sites are eligible to

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2 apply for grant funds from the Department of Education to  
3 implement school choice programs but are not required to  
4 participate in the program.

6 The demonstration sites are eligible for any innovative  
7 educational grant funds available within the department. If the  
8 department decides to provide grants for these sites and if  
9 additional General Fund appropriations are not provided for these  
10 grants, these funds may need to be diverted from other intended  
11 uses.

12 The net effect on the costs of participating local school  
13 units can not be determined at this time.

#### 14 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 This amendment is a minority report. This amendment  
17 replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Commissioner of  
18 Education to designate 2 pilot sites to implement public school  
19 choice programs. The 2 pilot sites must be chosen from among  
20 partnerships of school administrative units established to  
21 demonstrate efficiencies of consolidating certain school  
22 functions. The demonstration sites are eligible to apply for  
23 grant funds made available by the Department of Education.  
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