

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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m
R. G. S.

L.D. 1791

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DATE: 4/1/96

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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14

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 701, L.D. 1791, Bill, "An Act to Initiate Education Reform in Maine"

16

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Amend the amendment in section 1 in that part designated "§6209." by striking out all of subsections 1 and 2 and inserting in their place the following:

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22

'1. Guiding principles. Each student must leave school as:

24

A. A clear and effective communicator;

26

B. A self-directed and life-long learner;

28

C. A creative and practical problem solver;

30

D. A responsible and involved citizen;

32

E. A collaborative and quality worker; and

34

F. An integrative and informed thinker.

36

2. Content standards. Each student shall study and achieve proficiency in the following content standard subject areas:

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A. English language arts;

40

B. Mathematics;

42

C. Science and technology; and

44

D. Social studies.'

46

H. 418

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2 Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

4 **Sec. 2. Study group; development of standards and indicators.**

6 The Commissioner of Education shall convene a 15-member study group to develop recommended content standards and performance indicators in the areas of English language arts, mathematics, science and technology and social studies. Simultaneously, each school administrative unit shall review the learning standards set forth in the report of the Task Force on Learning Results, established pursuant to Public Law 1993, chapter 290, the learning standards adopted by the State of Virginia and the criteria established in this section. The department shall supply school administrative units with a copy of the report of the task force, a copy of the Virginia standards and a copy of the criteria. Each school administrative unit shall report its findings to the study group.

18 **1. Membership.** The study group consists of the following members:

22 A. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

24 B. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

26 C. One member from the Department of Education, appointed by the Commissioner of Education;

28 D. One member of the State Board of Education, appointed by the board;

30 E. One teacher appointed by the Governor;

32 F. Three representatives of Maine business, appointed by the Governor; and

34 G. Five parents of Maine students, grades kindergarten through 12, 2 appointed by the President of the Senate, 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the Governor.

36 **2. Recommendations.** The study group shall develop its recommendations in accordance with the following criteria.

38 A. The paramount purpose of the standards is to improve academic performance.

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- 2 B. The standards must be firmly grounded in academic
content and the well-accepted disciplines of a sound
4 education.
- 6 C. The standards may not focus on social, behavioral and
moral issues that do not lend themselves to a
8 standard-setting mechanism.
- 10 D. The standards must outline the essential knowledge to be
learned and the skills to be acquired in each subject area.
- 12 E. Each standard must be clear and specific.
- 14 F. Standards must be defined grade-by-grade in a framework
that provides effective guidance to all participants in the
16 educational system.
- 18 G. The standards must facilitate a student's transition
from one school to another within the State.
- 20 H. The standards may not attempt to cover everything to be
22 taught but must focus on what is essential for students to
learn.
- 24 I. The standards must be rigorous, challenging and
26 competitive with those that prevail in other states and
societies.
- 28 J. The standards must both motivate and measure student
30 performance.
- 32 K. Content standards must define the knowledge and skills
essential to each discipline.
- 34 L. Performance standards must specify the level of
36 competence necessary to measure attainment of the content
standards.
- 38 M. Standards must include multiple performance levels.
- 40 N. Standards must combine both knowledge and skills without
42 pursuing one at the expense of the other.
- 44 O. Standards may illustrate, but not dictate, the methods
by which material is to be taught.
- 46 P. The standards must be written clearly enough that both
48 parents and teachers understand what is expected of students
and can use the standards as a practical means of measuring
50 progress.

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2 Q. The standards must include accommodations and
4 modifications for students with special needs.

6 Following development of the recommendations, the content
8 standards and performance indicators in those subject areas must
10 be established subject to rules established jointly by the
12 Department of Education and the State Board of Education in
14 accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,
16 subchapter II. Proposed rules must be circulated to all school
18 administrative units and the public during the rule-making
20 process. The department and the board shall consider carefully
the recommendations of school administrative units in the
rule-making process. Rules adopted pursuant to this Act are
major substantive rules, as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
subchapter II-A, and must be reviewed by the joint standing
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education
and cultural affairs and approved by the Legislature. The rules
may not require a school administrative unit to incur additional
expenditures unless the State pays for 90% of the costs.'

22 Further amend the amendment in section 3 by striking out the
24 last 2 sentences (page 5, lines 1 to 8 in amendment)

26 Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section 4.

28 Further amend the amendment in section 5 in the 2nd line
from the end by striking out the following: "July 30, 1997" and
inserting in its place the following: 'January 1, 1997'

30 Further amend the amendment in section 9 in the first line
32 (page 6, line 37 in amendment) by inserting after the following:
"student" the following: 'and school'

34 Further amend the amendment in section 9 by inserting at the
36 end the following: 'They shall also review and make
38 recommendations on linking school administrative unit success in
helping students achieve the learning results with state
40 assistance for those units.'

42 Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 9 the
following:

44 '**Sec. 10. Expanded areas for learning standards.** Following
46 establishment of learning standards in the areas of English
language arts, mathematics, science and technology and social
48 studies, the Department of Education and the State Board of
Education shall advise the Legislature on establishing learning

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standards in the areas of career preparation, foreign languages, health and physical education and visual and performing arts.'

Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 11 the following:

'Sec. 12. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

10 1996-97

12 EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

14 Leadership

16 All Other \$7,000

18 Provides funds for the reimbursement of expenses of the public members of the study group charged to develop and recommend standards.

22 Reimbursement for State Mandates

24 All Other 12,750

26 Provides funds to allow the Department of Education to pay school administrative units for the one-time review and reporting requirements imposed in the bill.

32 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TOTAL \$19,750'

34 Further amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

38 FISCAL NOTE

40 1996-97

42 APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

44 General Fund \$19,750

48 The amendment establishes a study committee to develop certain content standards and performance indicators. The

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2 amendment provides a General Fund appropriation to the Department
of Education of \$7,000 in fiscal year 1996-97 to reimburse the
4 travel expenses of legislative and public members of the group
and for printing costs.

6 The amendment proposes review and reporting requirements on
school administrative units, which will result in additional
8 expenditures to the units. The Maine Revised Statutes, Title
30-A, section 5685 requires the State to provide sufficient
10 amounts to meet at least 90% of these additional costs and to
distribute the funds in accordance with a mandate payment
12 distribution schedule.

14 The amendment provides a General Fund appropriation of
\$12,750 in fiscal year 1996-97 for the Department of Education.
16 The one-time printing, postage and meeting costs incurred by the
school administrative units, estimated to average approximately
18 \$50 per unit, will be paid from this appropriation by the
Department of Education in accordance with the distribution
20 schedule.

22 **SUMMARY**

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This amendment combines the majority and minority reports of
26 the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by
specifying the learning standards that each school administrative
28 district must review.

30 This amendment establishes a 15-member study group to
develop and recommend standards only in the areas of English
32 language arts, mathematics, science and technology and social
studies.

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SPONSORED BY: J. L. Winn
(Representative WINN)

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TOWN: Glenburn

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HOUSE AMENDMENT