MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2	DATE: March 29, 1996 (Filing No. S-550)			
4	DAIL. Haren 29, 2990	riing no. 5 550 ,			
6	EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS				
8	Reported by: The Minority of the	Committee.			
10	Reproduced and distributed under the do	irection of the Secretary			
12	STATE OF MAIN	NE			
14	SENATE 117TH LEGISLATURE				
16	SECOND REGULAR S				
18	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P.	701 I.D 1701 Bill "An			
20	Act to Initiate Education Reform in Mair				
22	Amend the bill by striking out t the following:	he title and substituting			
24	'Resolve, to Further Refine Education Re	aform in Maine'			
26					
28	Further amend the bill by striking title and before the statement of fact the following:	-			
30	-	nt to improving the principles			
32	'Sec. 1. Legislature affirms commitme of education reform. Resolved: That to				
	Legislature affirm our commitment				
34	principles of education reform; and be i	t further			
36	Sec. 2. School administrative units t potential improvements to learning standa				
38	school administrative unit shall review	ew the learning standards			
40	set forth in the report of the Task E established pursuant to Public Law 1993 at least one example of learning standa	, chapter 290, as well as			
42	in another state. The learning stan	dards adopted by another			
44		ts may request assistance			
46	from regional representatives from the conducting the review. The review of	-			

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developed in accordance with the following criteria.

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2 1. The performance purpose of the standards is to improve academic performance.

2. The standards must be firmly grounded in academic content and the well-accepted disciplines of a sound education.

- 8 3. The standards may not focus on social, behavioral and moral issues that do not lend themselves to a standard-setting mechanism.
- 12 4. The standards must outline the essential knowledge to be learned and the skills to be acquired in each subject area.
 - 5. Each standard must be clear and specific.
- 6. Standards must be defined grade-by-grade in a framework that provides effective guidance to all participants in the educational system.
- 7. The standards must facilitate a student's transition from one school to another within the State.
- 8. The standards may not attempt to cover everything to be taught but must focus on what is essential for students to learn.
- 9. The standards must be rigorous, challenging and competitive with those that prevail in other states and societies.
- 30 10. The standards must both motivate and measure student performance.
- 11. Content standards must define the knowledge and skills essential to each discipline.
- 36 12. Performance standards must specify the level of competence necessary to measure attainment of the content standards.
- 40 13. Standards must include multiple performance levels.
- 42 14. Standards must combine both knowledge and skills without pursuing one at the expense of the other.
- 15. Standards may illustrate, but not dictate, the methods by which material is to be taught.
- 16. The standards must be written clearly enough that both parents and teachers understand what is expected of students and can use the standards as a practical means of measuring progress.

17. The standards must include accommodations and modifications for students with special needs; and be it further

Sec. 3. School administrative unit report required. Resolved: Each school administrative unit shall provide to the Commissioner of Education a comprehensive report on projected program changes and all associated costs required to implement learning standards. The report must also include any suggestions for improvement to the learning standards contained in the report and the means by which the standards should be assessed. Each school administrative unit shall report its findings to the Commissioner of Education by June 30, 1997; and be it further

Sec. 4. Commissioner to compile reports and report to the Legislature. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education shall compile the reports provided by school administrative units and prepare a thorough review and analysis of their contents, accompanied by any necessary implementing legislation, for submission to the Legislature by December 30, 1997. The review and analysis must be developed in accordance with the same criteria used by school administrative units. The commissioner's report must be considered by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters during the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.'

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

'FISCAL NOTE

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This resolve requires school administrative units to review certain learning standards developed with this State as well as standards adopted in at least one other state. The scope of this review is such that additional expenditures will be incurred by school administrative units. The amount of General Fund appropriations that will be required to provide at least 90% of the cost of these local expenditures can not be determined at this time, but it could be significant.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment is the minority report. This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment changes the bill to a resolve that directs each school administrative unit to review the learning standards set forth in the report of the Task Force on Learning Results and the learning standards adopted in at least one other state in accordance with criteria established by a national teachers' group. The amendment requires each school

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 701, L.D. 1791

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- administrative unit to provide to the Commissioner of Education a 2 report on the projected program changes and the costs associated with implementation of those changes. The Commissioner of
- Education is directed to compile the reports and prepare a review and analysis in accordance with the same criteria used by school
- administrative units, accompanied by any necessary implementing 6 legislation, for submission to the Legislature by December 30,

1997. 8

10 This amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.