



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 556

H.P. 411

House of Representatives, January 28, 1997

Resolve, to Establish a Study Group to Examine the Issue of School Choice.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

W). Mayo

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative POWERS of Rockport.

- Sec. 1. Study group established. Resolved: That the Study Group to Examine the Issue of School Choice, referred to in this resolve as the "study group," is established; and be it further
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Sec. 2. Study group membership. Resolved: That the study group consists of the following 9 members:

Two Legislators who are members of the Joint Standing 8 1. Affairs, Committee on Education and Cultural one Senator appointed by the President of the Senate and one member of the 10 House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of 12 Representatives;

The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's 14 2. designee;

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One member of the Maine School Choice Coalition; 4.

One representative of the Maine Municipal Association;

One representative of a home school association; and 5.

б. Three representatives of private schools, one representing a secular day school, one representing a secular 24 boarding school and one representing a religiously affiliated school; and be it further 26

28 Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. **Resolved**: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the The Executive Director of the effective date of this resolve. 30 Council must be notified by all appointing Legislative 32 authorities once the selections have been made. Within 15 days of the appointment of all members, the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the first meeting of the study 34 The study group shall select a chair from among its group. members; and be it further 36

Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved: That the study group shall examine 38 the use and impact of a voucher system in other states and study any other issues related to school choice for grades K-12 that 40 committee determines appropriate. The committee shall the 42 examine the information gathered from other states and provide a plan for a pilot project to be used at different locations throughout the State; and be it further 44

Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the study group may 46 request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be it further 48

Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved: That members of the study group are not entitled to reimbursement or compensation for attendance at meetings of the study group; and be it further

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Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That the study group shall submit its report and plan for a pilot project to initiate a school choice program for grades K-12, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature no later than January 1, 1998. If the study group requires an extension, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

SUMMARY

16 This resolve establishes the Study Group to Examine the Issue of School Choice. The study group must submit its report and plan for a pilot project to initiate a school choice program for grades K-12 to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.