

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 623

DATE: February 26, 1998

(Filing No. S-472 )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 195, L.D. 623, Bill, "An Act to Provide Opportunities for Choice within the Public School System"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, to Provide Educational Placement Options within the Public School System'**

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**'Sec. 1. Educational placement options grant program established; student eligibility. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Education shall promote improved educational opportunity within the public school system for students residing in the State by means of awarding educational placement options grants to an alliance of 2 or more school administrative units formed for the purpose of providing educational placement options through the sharing of resources among the member school administrative units. Students are eligible for an educational placement option within another school administrative unit pursuant to the provisions established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5205, subsection 6; and be it further

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 195, L.D. 623

2           **Sec. 2. Grant proceedings; competitive awards. Resolved:** That  
 application for grants, review of proposals and final awards must  
 4 meet the requirements of a grant review process established by  
 the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with rules of the  
 Department of Education on grant awards. Grants must be awarded  
 6 on a competitive basis to an alliance of 2 or more school  
 administrative units. An alliance of school administrative units  
 8 may be awarded a grant of up to \$10,000. Priority must be given  
 to proposals that the commissioner determines are most likely to  
 10 make a lasting contribution to education in the State, that are  
 reasonably cost-effective and that can be replicated in urban or  
 12 rural areas of the State. Rules adopted pursuant to this section  
 are routine technical rules pursuant to the Maine Revised  
 14 Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A; and be it further

16           **Sec. 3. Review; report; appropriations. Resolved:** That the  
 Commissioner of Education shall conduct a review of the results  
 18 of the educational placement options grant program following  
 operation of the grant program during the 1999-2000 school year.  
 20 The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall appear  
 before the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
 22 jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs on or before  
 January 31, 2001, to submit a report and any recommendations  
 24 based on the results of the educational placement options grant  
 program. Funds appropriated to the Department of Education to  
 26 carry out the purposes of this resolve must be in addition to the  
 customary and ongoing amounts appropriated for general purpose  
 28 aid to local schools; and be it further

30           **Sec. 4. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are  
 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of  
 32 this resolve.

34 **1998-99**

36 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

38 **Leadership**

40           All Other \$50,000

42           Provides funds to the Department of  
 Education to establish an educational  
 44 placement options grant program within the  
 public school system.'

46           Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
 48 summary the following:

50

**FISCAL NOTE**

2

**1998-99**

4

**APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

6

General Fund \$50,000

8

10 This resolve includes a General Fund appropriation of  
12 \$50,000 in fiscal year 1998-99 for the Department of Education to  
establish an educational placement options grant program.

14 The additional costs associated with adopting rules to  
16 implement the grant program and to report to the Legislature on  
the program's results can be absorbed by the department utilizing  
18 existing budgeted resources.'

20

**SUMMARY**

22

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title of  
24 the bill. The amendment proposes a resolve authorizing the  
Commissioner of Education to establish a grant program to promote  
26 educational placement options for public school students in the  
State. The resolve further establishes the following provisions  
for the educational placement options grant program.

28

30 1. A grant of up to \$10,000 may be awarded on a  
competitive basis to an alliance of 2 or more school  
32 administrative units formed for the purpose of providing  
educational placement options through the sharing of resources  
among the member school administrative units. Students are  
34 eligible for an educational placement option within another  
school administrative unit pursuant to the so-called  
36 "superintendents' agreement" provisions established in the Maine  
Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5205, subsection 6.

38

40 2. Priority must be given to proposals that the  
commissioner determines are most likely to make a lasting  
42 contribution to education in the State, that are reasonably  
cost-effective and that can be replicated in urban or rural areas  
of the State.

44

46 3. The commissioner shall review the results of the  
educational placement options grant program following operation  
of the grant program during the 1999-2000 school year and shall  
48 submit a report and any recommendations to the joint standing  
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education  
50 and cultural affairs on or before January 31, 2001.

R. W. S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 195, L.D. 623

2           4. A General Fund appropriation of \$50,000, in addition to  
4 the customary and ongoing amounts appropriated in fiscal year  
6 1998-99 for general purpose aid to local schools, must be  
6 appropriated to the Department of Education to carry out the  
6 purposes of this resolve.

8           The amendment also adds a fiscal note.