

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAJORITY
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1275, L.D. 1805, Bill, "An Act to Change the School Calendar"

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

'Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education to Establish Plans for an Alternative School Calendar'

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

'Sec. 1. Commissioner of Education to establish plans for an alternative school calendar. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education shall develop, in consultation with the State Board of Education, the Maine School Management Association and the Maine Education Association, a plan for an alternative school calendar for the purposes of assisting local school districts that wish to move to an alternative school calendar. The plan may include the following:

1. Professional development and training for staff and school board members on alternative school calendars;

2. Grants to local school districts for planning alternative school calendars;

3. Different types of school calendars, including year-round education, the use of intersessions, the incorporation of summer camps, both academic and extracurricular and other nontraditional school calendars; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 4. The development of a state contact person and
information resources on alternative school calendars within the
4 Department of Education and made available to all school
districts; and be it further

6
8 **Sec. 2. Statewide meeting. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of
Education shall conduct, no later than November 1, 1997, a
statewide meeting on alternative school calendars that includes
10 educators throughout the State; and be it further

12 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Education
shall report any findings and recommendations, including any
14 legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and
Cultural Affairs, no later than January 15, 1998.'

16
18 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

20 **FISCAL NOTE**

22 The additional costs associated with developing plans for an
alternative school calendar can be absorbed by the Department of
24 Education utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

26
28 **SUMMARY**

30 The amendment replaces the original bill and directs the
Commissioner of Education to establish plans for an alternative
school calendar for local schools that are interested in an
32 alternative school calendar and directs the commissioner to hold
a statewide meeting on the issue of alternative school
34 calendars. The amendment requires the commissioner to report
back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural
36 Affairs no later than January 15, 1998.