

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
119TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 602, L.D. 1725, Bill, "An Act to Allow the Towns of Wells and Ogunquit to Withdraw from Their Community School District"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. P&SL 1979, c. 45, §6, 7th ¶ is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

The total expenses of the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District for kindergarten to grade 12, including operational, program, maintenance, debt retirement and interest costs, must be apportioned between the participating Town of Ogunquit and Town of Wells according to the following formula.

1. For fiscal year 2000-01, 88.9% of the total will be assessed between the towns in the same proportion as the state valuation of each town, for the year preceding the year to which the budget applies, bears to the total valuation for both towns and 11.1% of the total will be assessed between the towns in the same proportion as the average number of resident pupils of each town, as counted under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, sections 5104-A and 6004 who are educated at public expense in kindergarten to grade 12 on April 1st and October 1st of the year preceding the year to which the budget applies, bears to the total number of resident pupils for both towns.

2. For fiscal year 2001-02, 77.8% of the total will be assessed between the towns in the same proportion as the state valuation of each town, for the year preceding the year to which

the budget applies, bears to the total valuation for both towns and 22.2% of the total will be assessed in the same proportion as the average number of resident pupils of each town, as provided in subsection 1 for the year preceding the year to which the budget applies, bears to the total number of resident pupils for both towns.

3. For fiscal year 2002-03 and subsequent fiscal years, 66.7% of the total will be assessed between the towns in the same proportion as the state valuation of each town, for the year preceding the year to which the budget applies, bears to the total valuation for both towns and 33.3% of the total will be assessed in the same proportion as the average number of resident pupils of each town, as provided in subsection 1 for the year preceding the year to which the budget applies, bears to the total number of resident pupils for both towns.

Notwithstanding subsection 3, after fiscal year 2002-03, the towns may agree to change the formula for apportionment of kindergarten to grade 12 educational costs by separate majority vote in each town.

A withdrawal from the community school district must be authorized by special act of the Legislature upon such terms as are contained in that special act.'

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

#### FISCAL NOTE

The additional costs associated with determining local share calculations due to the reapportioning of the costs of the Wells-Ogunquit Community School district between the Town of Wells and the Town of Ogunquit can be absorbed by the Department of Education utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

#### SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and replaces the bill. The amendment changes the current formula for distribution of the costs for kindergarten through grade 12 education within the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District. As currently provided by law, the educational costs of the school district are apportioned between the 2 towns based entirely on relative property valuation. The amendment provides for a phased-in change beginning in fiscal year 2000-01 that will result after 3 years in a sharing of costs based 2/3 on property

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2 valuation and 1/3 on student population of the towns. After  
3 fiscal year 2002-03, the costs will continue to be shared 2/3  
4 based on property valuation and 1/3 on student population unless  
each town approves an alternative sharing arrangement by majority  
vote.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**