

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 232, L.D. 269, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations Relating to Education Made by the Joint Study Committee to Study Bomb Threats in Maine Schools"

Amend the bill by inserting after the title the following:

'Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, two thirds of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§263." in subsection 1 in the 3rd line (page 1, line 34 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "officials" the following: 'and representatives of school personnel and school board members'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§263." in subsection 2 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 44 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "schools" and inserting in its place the following: 'public schools and private schools enrolling more than 60% of their students at public expense'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§263." in subsection 2 in the 5th line (page 1, line 47 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "unit" the following: 'or to the headmaster of the private school'

2 Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated
3 "§263." in subsection 2 in the 5th line (page 1, line 47 in L.D.)
4 by inserting after the following: "superintendent" the
5 following: 'or headmaster'

6
7 Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated
8 "§263." in subsection 2 in the 7th line (page 1, line 49 in L.D.)
9 by striking out the following: "48 hours" and inserting in its
10 place the following: '2 business days'

11
12 Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 17 in the
13 3rd line (page 2, line 9 in L.D.) by striking out the following:
14 "may include:" and inserting in its place the following: 'is
15 consistent with the prototypical policies developed by the
16 commissioner under section 263.'

17
18 Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 17 by
19 striking out all of paragraphs A to I (page 2, lines 11 to 39 in
20 L.D.).

21
22 Further amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 18 in the
23 5th line (page 2, line 45 in L.D.) by inserting after the
24 following: "must" the following: 'contain an explanation of the
25 portions of the policies and protocols relevant to students and
26 their families and'

27
28 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
29 summary the following:

30
31
32 **FISCAL NOTE**

33 This bill requires all public schools and certain private
34 schools to report certain bomb threat incidents to the
35 Commissioner of Education. It also requires the public and
36 certain private schools to adopt new policies. The additional
37 costs of this state mandate are indeterminate but expected to be
38 minor. Pursuant to the Mandate Preamble, the two-thirds vote of
39 all members elected to each House exempts the State from the
40 constitutional requirement to fund 90% of the additional local
41 costs.'

42
43
44 **SUMMARY**

45 This amendment expands the group of people the Commissioner
46 of Education must consult with in developing prototypical bomb
47 threat guidelines, policies and protocols to include
48 representatives of school personnel and school board members. It
49 requires school boards to adopt policies consistent with the
50

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2 prototypical policies and deletes the listing of the specific
policy components. The amendment also clarifies the bomb threat
4 reporting requirements of private schools and more explicitly
describes the information about a school's bomb threat policies
6 that must be contained in the student handbook. Finally, the
amendment adds a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.