## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 799

S.P. 278

In Senate, February 20, 2003

Resolve, To Improve Energy Efficiency in New School Buildings

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HALL of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Representative: McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth.

Sec. 1. Construction of schools: rules. Resolved: That 2 Commissioner of Education shall by January 1, 2004 amend the Department of Education's rules on construction of new schools or school buildings to require that all planning for new school construction must: Consider architectural designs and energy systems that

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show the greatest cost benefit over the life of the school by minimizing long-term energy and operating costs;

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Consider design incentives that reward architects and designers for the design of school buildings that have the least possible costs to operate over time;

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Require that all new and renovated school buildings, if funded by the State, exceed by 20% the efficiency values set out in the energy standards currently in effect for commercial and institutional construction under the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.'s Standard 2001 Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, I-P Edition;

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Require that all new school design and construction utilize a calculation of cost benefit that explicitly considers costs and benefits over a minimum of 20 years; and

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Require that these cost-benefit calculations explicitly include the public health and environmental benefits associated with energy-efficient school design and construction.

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The commissioner shall withhold state construction aid to any school district or municipality that can not show that it has duly considered the most energy and environmentally efficient designs suitable; and be it further

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Sec. 2. Rules. Resolved: That rules adopted by Commissioner of Education pursuant to this resolve are major substantive rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A; and be it further

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Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education report submit that includes its findings a recommendations for rules to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.

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## **SUMMARY**

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This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to amend the Department of Education's rules on construction of new schools or school buildings to require that all new school construction proposals must be based on the most energy and environmentally efficient designs suitable. The commissioner shall submit a report to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.