

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 856

H.P. 607

House of Representatives, February 16, 2005

### An Act Allowing School Unions To Improve Efficiency

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MERRILL of Appleton.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock and  
Representatives: CUMMINGS of Portland, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, LANSLEY of  
Sabattus, McKANE of Newcastle, NORTON of Bangor, PINGREE of North Haven,  
TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1902, sub-§3, ¶E,** as amended by PL 1993, c.  
131, §1, is further amended to read:

6 E. May authorize a school administrative unit within the  
7 school union to serve as a contractual employer of teachers  
8 and other personnel who provide services to more than one  
9 unit in the union. Employment is subject to section 13201  
10 and Title 26, chapter 9-A; and

12 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §1904** is enacted to read:

14 **§1904. Fiscal authority**

16 The school union may act as the fiscal agent for all the  
17 towns in the school union if all the towns agree through a  
18 referendum by the voting population or at a town meeting in each  
19 town. The school union must provide the towns with accounting  
20 records 3 months after the end of the fiscal year.

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill allows a school union to be the fiscal agent for  
26 the schools in the union. This bill allows municipalities to  
28 turn over the school appropriation for schools directly to the  
school union if the towns in the school union agree through a  
30 referendum or a town meeting vote. The school union is  
authorized to hire personnel that are shared between different  
schools in the union, such as a school nurse.