

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 866

H.P. 617

House of Representatives, February 16, 2005

**Resolve, To Direct the Department of Education To Review the
School Facility Needs of the State and To Develop Standards for
Cost-effective Financing of School Facilities**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative GOLDMAN of Cape Elizabeth.
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec and
Representatives: BLISS of South Portland, BRYANT of Windham, EBERLE of South
Portland, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, NORTON of Bangor, SAVIELLO of Wilton, WEBSTER
of Freeport.

Sec. 1. Department of Education review of school facility needs of State. Resolved:

That the Department of Education is directed to conduct a review of the school facilities inventory in order to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of existing state policies for financing school construction and to forecast the level of public investment necessary to meet the capital improvement needs of public schools over the next decade. This review must include analyses of the most recent data available from the school facilities inventory maintained by the department in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15917 and must also include analyses of the facility maintenance plans and capital improvement programs submitted by school administrative units that have applied for:

1. State funds for a school construction project pursuant to Title 20-A, section 15905;

2. Loans from the School Revolving Renovation Fund pursuant to Title 30-A, section 6006-F;

3. Loans from the school facilities finance lease-purchase program pursuant to Title 30-A, section 6006-E; and

4. Approval from the Commissioner of Education for the construction of school facilities that were constructed without state support as nonstate funded projects pursuant to Title 20-A, section 15905-A.

The Department of Education shall assess the cost-effectiveness of existing state policies for financing school construction by evaluating the life cycle costs associated with school facilities that were financed under each of the state finance policies or practices described in this section; and be it further

Sec. 2. Standards for cost-effective financing of school facilities; forecast for public investment in school facilities. Resolved:

That, in examining the findings and conclusions formed during the review conducted under section 1, the Department of Education shall recommend standards for cost-effective financing of school facilities, including proposed revisions to existing school facility finance policies and practices that may result in more cost-effective expenditures of public funds. The department shall also develop a forecast of the levels of public investment necessary to meet the capital improvement needs of public schools over the next decade; and be it further

