

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1425

DATE: 3/29/06

(Filing No. H-913)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

*Majority*

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
122ND LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 989, L.D. 1425, Bill, "An Act To Support the Efficient Implementation of Maine's Learning Results"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the enacting clause.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6202-A, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 454, §30, is amended to read:

1. **Technical assistance.** ~~During the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years, the~~ The department shall provide technical assistance to school administrative units in developing local assessment systems and setting standards for local assessment systems using student achievement data to inform teaching and learning. By the end of the 2003-2004 school year, the superintendent of each school administrative unit shall certify to the commissioner that the local assessment system meets these standards. The department shall establish quality standards for the statewide assessment program and the local assessment systems.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §6202-A, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Moratorium. Notwithstanding subsection 2, a

2 moratorium is imposed for the 2006-2007 school year for  
3 activities associated with assessments designed to certify  
4 student achievement. Assessments used for informing teaching and  
5 learning are exempt from this moratorium. This subsection is  
6 repealed June 30, 2007.

8 **Sec. 3. Moratorium; intent.** The moratorium established  
9 pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section  
10 6202-A, subsection 2-A, is intended to suspend those activities  
11 associated with local assessment system activities designed to  
12 certify student achievement. This moratorium does not suspend or  
13 revise other statutory requirements for implementation of the  
14 system of learning results, including the implementation timeline  
15 that was established for the awarding of a high school diploma  
16 that is aligned with the system of learning results pursuant to  
Public Law 2005, chapter 446.

18 **Sec. 4. Commissioner of Education to convene committees.** During  
19 the moratorium established pursuant to the Maine Revised  
20 Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6202-A, subsection 2-A, the  
21 Commissioner of Education shall convene:

22 1. A representative committee to design a growth model using  
23 the revised Maine education assessment for grades 3 to 8, thereby  
24 redefining the statewide assessment program as defined in the  
25 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6202; and

28 2. A representative committee to:

30 A. Design a course of study and common state assessments  
31 for language arts and mathematics for high school students;

32 B. Provide recommendations for the remaining content areas;  
33 and

34 C. Design a pilot program to provide models for the  
35 determination of student achievement that merits the  
36 attainment of a learning results endorsement diploma,  
37 evaluated through a facilitated process.

40 **Sec. 5. Professional development funds; technical assistance.** For  
41 fiscal year 2006-07, the Commissioner of Education may expend and  
42 disburse up to \$1,000,000 of the \$2,000,000 appropriated by the  
43 Legislature to carry out the purposes of Public Law 1995, chapter  
44 649, sections 6 and 7 to provide targeted professional  
45 development or technical assistance to increase the capacity of  
46 school administrative units to:

48 1. Develop data systems that:  
49

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2 A. Integrate assessments and assessment data into  
curriculum and instruction;

4 B. Design, validate, score and interpret assessments; and

6 C. Develop standards-based reporting systems;

8 2. Understand and implement Department of Education  
requirements;

10 3. Communicate standards-based assessment programs to  
12 stakeholders; and

14 4. Provide models of established, successful and balanced  
local assessment systems from school administrative units.

16 The Department of Education may collaborate with other  
18 organizations in defining and providing targeted professional  
development or technical assistance to school administrative  
20 units in promoting the efficient and effective implementation of  
the system of learning results.'

22

24 **SUMMARY**

26 This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing  
Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment  
28 strikes and replaces the bill to accomplish the following.

30 1. It alters the requirement that the Department of  
Education provide technical assistance to school administrative  
32 units in establishing their local assessment systems to clarify  
that the department shall provide technical assistance in using  
34 assessments to inform teaching and learning.

36 2. It establishes a moratorium for the 2006-2007 school  
year for those local assessment system activities that are  
38 designed to certify student achievement and clarifies that  
assessments that are used to inform teaching and learning are  
40 exempt from the moratorium.

42 3. It clarifies that the moratorium established for the  
2006-2007 school year for certain activities within each school  
44 administrative unit's local assessment system does not affect  
other statutory requirements related to the implementation of the  
46 system of learning results.

48 4. It provides that the Department of Education shall  
establish quality standards for the comprehensive state and local  
50 assessment system.

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2           5. It provides that, for fiscal year 2006-07, the  
Commissioner of Education may expend and disburse up to  
4           \$1,000,000 of the \$2,000,000 appropriated by the Legislature to  
carry out the purposes of Public Law 1995, chapter 649, sections  
6           6 and 7 to provide targeted professional development or technical  
assistance to increase the capacity of school administrative  
8           units to implement the system of learning results.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED  
(See attached)



# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1425

LR 2169(02)

**An Act To Support the Efficient Implementation of Maine's Learning Results**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"**

**Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

**Majority Report**

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Placing a moratorium for the 2006-2007 school year on activities associated with local assessments designed to certify student achievement may result in temporary savings to local school administrative units. The amount can not be determined at this time. Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with establishing quality standards for the comprehensive state and local assessment system and providing the required technical assistance can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted resources.