

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4-17-08

(Filing No. H-1030)

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to S.P. 931, L.D. 2323, Bill, "An Act To Remove Barriers to the Reorganization of School Administrative Units"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following:

'Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §1461, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 240, Pt. XXXX, §13, is amended to read:

B. In order for the plan to be approved by the commissioner, the governing bodies of school administrative units shall work within the following parameters.

(1) The proposed regional school unit must serve not fewer than 2,500 students, except where circumstances relating to the following factors justify an exception:

- (a) Geography, including physical proximity and the size of the current school administrative unit;
- (b) Demographics, including student enrollment trends and the composition and nature of communities in the regional school unit;
- (c) Economics, including existing collaborations to be preserved or enhanced and opportunities to deliver commodities and services to be maximized;
- (d) Transportation;
- (e) Population density; or
- (f) Other unique circumstances including the need to preserve existing or developing relationships, meet the needs of students, maximize educational opportunities for students and ensure equitable access to rigorous programs for all students.

When circumstances justify an exception to the size requirement of 2,500 students, the unit must serve as close to 2,500 students as possible and in no case, except for coastal islands and, schools operated by tribal school committees and geographically isolated inland communities with schools separated by more than 25 miles by road, may it serve fewer than 1,200 students.

HOUSE AMENDMENT

H.S.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to S.P. 931, L.D. 2323

1 (2) The plan must provide comprehensive programming for all students from
2 kindergarten to grade 12 and must include at least one publicly supported
3 secondary school.


4 (3) The plan must be consistent with the policies set forth in section 1451.

5 (4) The plan may not displace teachers or students or close any schools existing
6 and operating during the school year immediately preceding reorganization,
7 except as permitted under section 1512.'

8 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
9 section number to read consecutively.

10 SUMMARY

11 This amendment adds certain geographically isolated inland communities to the list
12 of communities that may serve fewer than 1,200 students under the laws governing
13 regional school units.

14 SPONSORED BY: 

15 (Representative JOHNSON)

16 TOWN: Greenville

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2323

LR 3653(05)

An Act To Remove Barriers to the Reorganization of School Administrative Units

Fiscal Note for House Amendment "C"

Sponsor: Rep. Johnson of Greenville

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Allowing certain school administrative units to serve fewer than 1,200 students if the area is a geographically isolated inland community with schools that are separated by more than 25 miles may increase the total cost of K-12 public education in future biennia due to less savings being achieved versus what was anticipated in Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX. The amount can not be determined at this time.