

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPORT "B"

L.D. 245

Date: 4-3-09

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

124TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 86, L.D. 245, Bill, "An Act To Calculate the School Year by Number of Hours"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, weather, failure of heating systems or other extraordinary events may necessitate a school board to alter the school calendar; and

Whereas, allowing the Commissioner of Education to approve alternatives to the minimum number of school days offers a school board flexibility in adjusting the calendar to best meet students' needs; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4801, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

A. The commissioner may reduce or waive the minimum number of days required on application from a school board. The commissioner may authorize an equivalent number of hours to be substituted for days for a limited time period upon application from a school board. The application must be supported in writing with a statement of the reasons for the request.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. G. S.

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SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It allows the Commissioner of Education to authorize a school to substitute equivalent hours for days for a limited time period upon application of the school board.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 245

LR 79(03)

An Act To Calculate the School Year by Number of Hours

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "B"

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with issuing the required authorization can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.