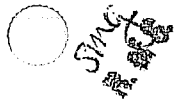


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/29/10

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
124TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 389, L.D. 551, Bill, "An Act To Improve the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, To Direct the Commissioner of Education To Review the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula'

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

Sec. 1. Review. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education, in conjunction with the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, shall conduct a review of certain education finance and policy issues associated with The Essential Programs and Services Funding Act established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B. In conducting this review, the Commissioner of Education and the Maine Education Policy Research Institute shall:

1. Analyze the components of the essential programs and services funding formula, including analyses of:

A. The original policy goal or educational objective established for each of the essential programs and services cost components and a detailed description of the original and current methodology used to calculate the resources determined to be adequate for each cost component;

B. The subsidy distribution methodology originally established for the essential programs and services funding formula and the subsidy distribution methodology currently included in the school funding formula; and

C. The practices found in schools identified as higher-performing, more efficient schools and schools identified as lower-performing, less efficient schools by the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, including the best practices found in higher-performing, more efficient schools where the actual educational performance of specialized student populations exceeds the expected performance for these

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 specialized student populations as compared to the actual and expected educational
2 performance of similar students in other schools in the State;

3 2. Evaluate the current statutory framework related to the Commissioner of
4 Education's annual funding level computations and funding level recommendations as set
5 forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B, as well as the provisions
6 that provide for reviewing and updating certain essential programs and services cost
7 components using information provided by a statewide educational policy research
8 institute;

9 3. Propose any necessary changes to the current mechanisms that would permit the
10 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters the
11 opportunity to review the most recent data available as the Legislature considers the
12 enactment of legislation to appropriate the necessary funds for the State's share of the
13 general purpose aid for local schools program and any changes to the essential programs
14 and services funding formula necessary to respond to changing conditions; and

15 4. Make recommendations on the components and issues included in this section and
16 on other matters relating to the essential programs and services funding formula; and be it
17 further

18 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than January 3, 2011, the Commissioner
19 of Education and the Maine Education Policy Research Institute shall submit a report that
20 includes their findings and recommendations, including any suggested legislation, to the
21 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters.'

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This amendment strikes the concept draft and replaces it with a resolve that requires
24 the Commissioner of Education, in conjunction with the Maine Education Policy
25 Research Institute, to review and report on the components and subsidy distribution
26 mechanisms of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. The Commissioner of
27 Education and the Maine Education Policy Research Institute are directed to submit their
28 report by January 3, 2011 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
29 jurisdiction over education matters.

30 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

31 (See attached)



124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 551

LR 1058(02)

An Act To Improve the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula

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

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 conducting the required review and issuing the required report can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.