

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5-26-09

(Filing No. S-210)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

124TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 461, L.D. 1280, "Resolve, To Provide a Program Model for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder"

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

'Sec. 1. Department of Education to study program models for children with autism spectrum disorders. Resolved: That the Department of Education shall conduct a study of educational services for children with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders. The department shall convene a work group with broad stakeholder representation, including parents, involved in meeting the educational needs of children and youth with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders. The purpose of the work group is to analyze current educational services and to make recommendations that will assist the department to ensure that children and youth with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders have access to appropriate and effective services to meet their educational needs. The work group shall address the following issues:

1. The barriers to full inclusion for a student with autism or another pervasive developmental disorder and how the barriers are addressed;

2. Ensuring that appropriate individualized educational services by schools, in the least restrictive environment, are available to students diagnosed with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders and ensuring that parents are included in the process of determining those services;

3. Ensuring a successful transition by schools from one grade to the next grade for a student diagnosed with autism or another pervasive developmental disorder;

4. The resources about autism and other pervasive developmental disorders that are available to education professionals and paraprofessionals;

5. The current gaps in information about autism and other pervasive developmental disorders for education professionals and paraprofessionals and how these gaps can be addressed; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R.S.

1           6. The training requirements for education professionals and paraprofessionals who  
2 work with students diagnosed with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders;  
3 and be it further

4           **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Education shall submit a  
5 report, including the findings and recommendations from the work group under section 1,  
6 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 29, 2010.  
7 The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit legislation  
8 related to this report to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.'

9

#### SUMMARY

10           This amendment replaces the resolve and directs the Department of Education to  
11 convene a work group with broad stakeholder representation, including parents, to  
12 conduct a study of educational services for children with autism and other pervasive  
13 developmental disorders. The Department of Education is directed to submit a report,  
14 including the findings and recommendations from the work group, to the Joint Standing  
15 Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 29, 2010.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED  
(See attached)



# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1280

LR 1673(02)

**Resolve, To Provide a Program Model for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

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

**Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with convening a work group, conducting the required study and submitting the required report can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.