

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/16/11

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 38, L.D. 45, Bill, "An Act To Allow Marriage and Family Therapists To Serve as Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools"

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

'An Act To Allow Marriage and Family Therapists To Provide Related Services in Public Schools'

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

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §7007 is enacted to read:

§7007. Related services

Related services must be provided by qualified individuals employed or contracted by the school administrative unit in accordance with rules adopted by the department pursuant to section 7005.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §7251-A, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 395, Pt. A, §74, is amended to read:

§7251-A. Local special education services; related services

A school administrative unit may offer or contract for special education services. A school administrative unit may also offer or contract for related services in accordance with rules adopted by the department pursuant to section 7005.

Sec. 3. Rules amended; marriage and family therapists. The Commissioner of Education shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to clarify that a person licensed as a marriage and family therapist under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 119 is qualified to:

- 1. Serve as a qualified evaluator for children 3 to 20 years of age as described in Section IV, subsection 2, paragraph G of the rule;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 38, L.D. 45

- 1 2. Provide related services to children with disabilities as described in Section XI of
- 2 the rule; and
- 3 3. Serve as a qualified licensed contractor pursuant to a contract for the provision of
- 4 related services to children with disabilities as described in Section XVIII, subsection 1,
- 5 paragraph C, subparagraph (3), division (a) of the rule.'

SUMMARY

7 This amendment changes the title and replaces the bill to provide that school
8 administrative units may employ or contract with qualified licensed individuals to
9 provide related services required to assist children with disabilities to benefit from their
10 special education programs. The amendment also directs the Commissioner of Education
11 to amend the Department of Education rules in Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special
12 Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty to clarify that a person licensed as a marriage
13 and family therapist is qualified to serve as a qualified evaluator and a qualified licensed
14 contractor.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



Approved: 02/18/11 *MAC*

125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 45

LR 192(02)

An Act To Allow Marriage and Family Therapists To Serve as Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools

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 rulemaking can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.