

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6-6-11

MAJORITY

(Filing No. S- 260)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

125TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 290, L.D. 944, Bill, "An Act To Increase College Attainment"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4730 by striking out all of the indented paragraph (page 1, lines 4 to 8 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

1. Completion of college application; financial aid application. Except as provided in subsections 2 and 3, in addition to the requirements of this chapter and the system of learning results established in section 6209, in order to receive a diploma, a secondary student must complete a federally accepted free application for federal student aid and complete and submit at least one application to a college, university, other postsecondary educational institution or certificate program to assess eligibility for financial aid.

2. Exceptions. A student is not required to comply with subsection 1 if the student submits verification that:

- A. The student is enlisting in the United States Armed Forces;
- B. The student has secured a job or internship;
- C. The student has attended an orientation session for an apprenticeship or training program; or
- D. The student has been accepted at a college, university, other postsecondary educational institution or certificate program.

If a student's parents or legal guardian refuses to complete the free application for federal student aid, that student is not required to complete the free application for federal student aid. High school guidance staff, as defined in section 15672, subsection 11, in consultation with the principal, may allow a student to submit a completed application to the high school guidance staff rather than to the college, university, other postsecondary educational institution or certificate program.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 290, L.D. 944

1           **3. Waiver.** A student, with the consent of that student's parents or legal guardian if  
2 the student is younger than 18 years of age, may petition the superintendent for a waiver  
3 from subsection 1.

4   **SUMMARY**

5           This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education  
6 and Cultural Affairs. It provides exceptions to the proposed requirement that a student  
7 must complete an application to a postsecondary educational institution and a free  
8 application for federal student aid prior to receiving a high school diploma.

9   **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

10   (See attached)



# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 944

LR 1462(02)

## An Act To Increase College Attainment

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" S-260**

**Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

### Fiscal Note

State Mandate - Unfunded

#### State Mandates

**Required Activity**

Requires secondary school students to complete a federally accepted free application for federal student aid and at least one application to a postsecondary educational institution in order to receive a diploma. School administrative units will need to track and record student progress in completing the tasks, notify students and parents of failure to comply and plan an alternative course of action for the students who do not successfully complete the tasks.

**Unit Affected**

School

**Local Cost**

Moderate statewide

The required local activities in this bill may represent a State mandate pursuant to the Constitution of Maine. Unless General Fund appropriations are provided to fund at least 90% of the additional costs or a Mandate Preamble is amended to the bill and two-thirds of the members of each House vote to exempt this mandate from the funding requirement, municipalities may not be required to implement these changes.