

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 952

S.P. 298

In Senate, March 8, 2011

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the School Revolving Renovation Fund

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.

Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Senators: COURTNEY of York, MASON of Androscoggin, PLOWMAN of Penobscot, Representatives: BEAULIEU of Auburn, CEBRA of Naples, DAMON of Bangor, JOHNSON of Eddington, McCLELLAN of Raymond.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §6006-F, sub-§3, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 439, Pt.
3 OOOO, §2, is further amended to read:

4 A. To make loans to school administrative units for school repair and renovation.

5 (1) The following repair and renovation needs receive first priority status:

6 (a) Repair or replacement of a roof on a school building;

7 (b) Bringing a school building into compliance with the federal Americans
8 with Disabilities Act, 42 United States Code, Section 12101 et seq.;

9 (c) Improving air quality in a school building;

10 (d) Removing asbestos from or abating asbestos in a school building; ~~and~~

11 (f) Undertaking other health, safety and compliance repairs; ~~and~~

12 (g) Making repairs and renovations to improve energy efficiency.

13 (2) Repairs Except as provided in subparagraph (1), division (g), repairs and
14 improvements not related to health, safety and compliance repairs receive 2nd
15 priority status. Those repairs and improvements are limited to a school building
16 structure, windows and doors and to a school building water or septic system.

17 (3) Upgrade of learning spaces in school buildings and small-scale capital
18 improvements receive 3rd priority status.

19 (4) The Commissioner of Education may approve other necessary repairs.

20 (5) After the total amount appropriated, allocated and repaid to the fund exceeds
21 \$75,000,000, loans may be provided for 2nd priority status, 3rd priority status or
22 other necessary repairs, improvements and upgrades, with approval of the
23 Commissioner of Education, based on rules adopted under this section, as long as
24 the Commissioner of Education determines that substantial progress has been
25 made in addressing repairs and renovations with first priority status;

26 **Sec. 2. Rules.** The Department of Education shall amend its rules governing the
27 School Revolving Renovation Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title
28 30-A, section 6006-F, subsection 1 to provide that the maximum total loans for repairs,
29 renovations and improvement projects for first priority, 2nd priority, 3rd priority and
30 other projects for a school building from the fund is \$9,000,000. The maximum loan
31 amount from the fund to address all first priority projects in a school building must be
32 \$3,000,000. The maximum loan amount from the fund to address all 2nd priority projects
33 in a school building must be \$3,000,000. The maximum loan amount from the fund to
34 address all 3rd priority projects in a school building must be \$3,000,000, except that, in a
35 case in which a school administrative unit documents to the department's satisfaction that
36 all first priority and 2nd priority issues have been addressed in that school without fund
37 support, the maximum loan amount from the fund to address all 3rd priority projects in
38 that school must be \$6,000,000. If first priority and 2nd priority issues have not been
39 addressed, then the maximum amount from the fund to address 3rd priority projects must
40 be \$3,000,000. A school building may qualify for a combination of loans from the fund

1 for first priority, 2nd priority, 3rd priority and other projects, but in no case may the total
2 of the loans exceed \$9,000,000.

3

SUMMARY

4 This bill amends the laws governing the School Revolving Renovation Fund to
5 provide that repairs and renovations to improve energy efficiency qualify for first priority
6 status in determining which loans to school administrative units are approved. It also
7 increases from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000 the maximum loan amount from the fund to
8 address first priority, 2nd priority or 3rd priority projects. It increases from \$3,000,000 to
9 \$9,000,000 the maximum total loans from the fund for which a school building is
10 eligible.