

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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BMG
R. 4. 13

L.D. 197

Date: 4/17/13

Majority

(Filing No. H- 75)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 158, L.D. 197, Bill, "An Act To Permit Nurse Practitioners To Perform the Functions of School Physicians"

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

'An Act To Improve Health Services to 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 §6402-A, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 258, §2, is amended to read:

§6402-A. School health advisor

Each school board shall appoint one or more ~~school physicians~~ or family or pediatric nurse practitioners to act as school health advisor.

1. Duties. The school ~~physician~~ health advisor shall advise the administrative unit on school health issues, policies and practices and may also perform any other health-related functions assigned by the board.

2. Other functions. A school ~~physician~~ health advisor may perform other medical and health-related duties assigned by the school board, which may include all or some of the following:

A. Examine and diagnose students referred by teachers and other school employees to protect against the outbreak of contagious diseases in the schools;

B. Examine students for participation in physical education and athletic activities;

C. Advise and serve as medical consultant to the school nurse; or

D. Examine school employees and property if the ~~physician~~ school health advisor believes it is necessary to protect the health of students.

3. Prohibition. A school ~~physician~~ health advisor may not treat any student examined under this subchapter unless the ~~physician~~ school health advisor is also the

1 student's personal physician health care provider. A school health advisor that advises a
2 school board pursuant to subsection 1 or performs other functions under subsection 2 may
3 not act outside the scope of practice of the physician or nurse practitioner who functions
4 as a school health advisor as established by law or rule of the applicable licensing board.

5 **4. Appointment.** Appointment ~~shall be~~ is on a yearly basis.'

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment renames
8 school physicians, including family or pediatric nurse practitioners, school health
9 advisors and clarifies that school health advisors may not act outside the scope of practice
10 applicable to the school health advisor. The amendment removes from the bill a
11 provision on local health officer duties.

12 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

13 (See attached)



Approved: 03/22/13 *mac*

126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 197

LR 1142(02)

An Act To Permit Nurse Practitioners To Perform the Functions of School Physicians

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-75)
Committee: Health and Human Services
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential future biennium savings - Local School Administrative Units

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Allowing a family or pediatric nurse practitioner to serve as a health advisor in a school may result in savings to local school administrative units if the cost of having a nurse practitioner serve as a school's health care provider is lower than the cost of having a physician serve in that same capacity.