

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/10/13 majority (Filing No. H-437) L.D. 481

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 331, L.D. 481, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Virtual Public Charter Schools"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 2 in paragraph B in the last 2 lines (page 1, lines 13 and 14 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "who operate the virtual public charter school must hold valid teacher certification in this State" and inserting the following: ', including full-time and part-time teachers, who operate the virtual public charter school must be properly certified in accordance with certification rules adopted pursuant to chapter 502 and must hold valid certification in this State in accordance with section 2412, subsection 6, paragraph B'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §2412, sub-§6, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 414, §5, is amended to read:

B. All full-time and part-time teachers in a public charter school must either hold an appropriate teaching certificate or become certified within 3 years of the date they are hired, except for those with an advanced degree, professional certification or unique expertise or experience in the curricular area in which they teach.'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

'Sec. 3. Per-pupil allocation for students enrolled in virtual public charter schools. The Department of Education, in consultation with the Maine Charter School Commission, shall review the funding provisions established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2413 related to determining the per-pupil allocation amount necessary for the costs of operating virtual public charter schools and validating the appropriate amount of funding for operating costs that should be provided for students enrolled in virtual public charter schools. The Commissioner of Education shall submit a report, including findings and recommendations, on the review of the operating costs and appropriate per-pupil funding amount for students enrolled in virtual public charter schools to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 10, 2014. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular
2 Session of the 126th Legislature.'

3 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
4 section number to read consecutively.

5 **SUMMARY**

6 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, amends the bill to
7 provide that part-time teachers must also meet the teacher employment provisions of the
8 public charter school law. The amendment also directs the Department of Education, in
9 consultation with the Maine Charter School Commission, to review funding provisions
10 related to determining the per-pupil allocation amount necessary for the costs of operating
11 virtual public charter schools and validating the appropriate amount of operating costs
12 that should be provided for students enrolled in virtual public charter schools and report
13 the results of its review to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural
14 Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the
15 126th Legislature.

16 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

17 **(See attached)**



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 481

LR 406(02)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Virtual Public Charter Schools

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

ACH-437

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Limiting the per-pupil allocation that follows a student to a virtual public charter school to 20% will not change the total cost of K-12 public education or the State's share of that cost.

The Department of Education and the Maine Charter School Commission may need to contract with an outside entity to conduct the required review in order to determine the appropriate amount of per-pupil allocation that should be provided for students enrolled in virtual charter schools. According to the Department of Education, outside resources may be needed because neither the department nor the commission has the capacity, in staff resources or expertise, to gather and analyze the data necessary to make the required recommendations. The cost to the department and its ability to absorb those costs without impacting other programs and services can not be determined at this time.