

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 665

H.P. 457

House of Representatives, February 26, 2013

An Act To Facilitate the Transition to a Standards-based Educational System

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative KUSIAK of Fairfield.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4722-A, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 669, §7, is
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Grants; contingent extension of full implementation.** During the period of
5 transition to proficiency-based graduation in accordance with this section, the department,
6 if funds are available, shall make annual transition grants to each school administrative
7 unit equal to 1/10 of 1% of the school administrative unit's total cost of education
8 calculated under section 15688, subsection 1 to be used in the manner determined by the
9 school administrative unit to fund the costs of the transition not otherwise subsidized by
10 the State. The date for implementation of the awarding of diplomas based on student
11 demonstration of proficiency as described in this section is extended one year for each
12 year for which transition grants are not made available to a school administrative unit or
13 for which levels of general purpose aid for local schools fall below ~~school year 2012-~~
14 ~~2013 levels~~ 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade
15 12 pursuant to the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 Current law provides that the date for implementation of awarding diplomas based on
18 student demonstration of proficiency is extended one year for each year for which levels
19 of general purpose aid for local schools falls below the levels provided in school year
20 2012-2013. This bill instead extends the implementation date one year for each year for
21 which levels of general purpose aid for local schools falls below 55% of the total cost of
22 funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 pursuant to the Essential
23 Programs and Services Funding Act.