

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/18/13

majority

L.D. 783
(Filing No. H-552)

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. 534, L.D. 783, Bill, "An Act To Change the Voting Requirements for the Withdrawal of a Municipality from a Regional School Unit"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1.

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §1466, sub-§9-A, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 678, Pt. J, §2, is amended to read:

9-A. Required vote; exception for a municipality of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit. A 2/3 vote of those casting valid votes in the municipality is required before a municipality that is a member municipality of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12 may withdraw from the regional school unit.

~~This subsection is repealed January 1, 2015.~~

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 6 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 6. 20-A MRSA §1466, sub-§13, as amended by PL 2013, c. 167, Pt. A, §2, is further amended to read:

13. Determination of results; execution of agreement. Except for a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, if the commissioner finds that a majority of the voters voting on the article has voted in the affirmative ~~and the total number of votes cast for and against the article equal or exceed 50% of the total number of votes cast in the municipality for Governor at the last gubernatorial election,~~ the commissioner shall notify the municipal officers and the regional school unit board to take steps for the withdrawal in accordance with the terms of the agreement for withdrawal. For a municipality that is part of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. d. S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 534, L.D. 783

1 XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, if the commissioner finds that at least 2/3 of the votes
2 validly cast in the municipality are in the affirmative, the commissioner shall notify the
3 municipal officers and the regional school unit board to take steps for the withdrawal in
4 accordance with the terms of the agreement for withdrawal.

5 ~~This subsection is repealed January 1, 2015.~~

6 Amend the bill by adding after section 7 the following:

7 **'Sec. 8. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
8 allocations are made.

9 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

10 **General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308**

11 Initiative: Provides funds for the State's share of the increased cost of K-12 public
12 education as a result of municipalities withdrawing from regional school units.

13	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
14	All Other	\$0	\$643,500
15			
16	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$643,500</u>

17 **School Finance and Operations Z078**

18 Initiative: Provides funds for one Education Specialist II position and one Education
19 Specialist III position and related all other costs through June 30, 2016 to support the
20 anticipated increase in workload associated with the withdrawal process of individual
21 municipalities from regional school units.

22	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
23	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2,000	2,000
24	Personal Services	\$174,087	\$178,910
25	All Other	\$4,316	\$4,016
26			
27	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$178,403</u>	<u>\$182,926</u>

28	EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
29	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2013-14	2014-15
30			
31	GENERAL FUND	\$178,403	\$826,426
32			
33	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$178,403</u>	<u>\$826,426</u>
34			

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2. d. s.

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes the provision in the bill that requires that a facilitator to oversee negotiations must be appointed if, after 90 days of its formation, the withdrawal committee that is selected by the municipality seeking to withdraw from the regional school unit fails to reach an agreement with the regional school unit. The amendment also updates a section of law that was amended in Public Law 2013, chapter 167, Part A, section 2 to avoid a conflict. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 783

LR 125(02)

An Act To Change the Voting Requirements for the Withdrawal of a Municipality from a Regional School Unit

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A (H-552)"

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	Projections FY 2015-16	Projections FY 2016-17
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$178,403	\$826,426	\$1,474,882	\$1,287,000
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$178,403	\$826,426	\$1,474,882	\$1,287,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes General Fund appropriations totaling \$178,403 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$826,426 in fiscal year 2014-15 for the costs associated with changes to the provisions in current law regarding municipalities withdrawing from regional school units (RSU's).

The General Fund appropriations include \$178,403 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$182,926 in fiscal year 2014-15 to the School Finance and Operations Program within the Department of Education for one Education Specialist II position and one Education Specialist III position and related all other costs to support the anticipated increase in workload associated with the process of municipalities withdrawing from regional school units. This fiscal note assumes that the increased workload will subside in fiscal year 2016-17 and these positions will end.

The General Fund appropriations also include \$643,500 to the General Purpose Aid to Local Schools program within the Department of Education for the State's share of the increased cost of K-12 public education as a result of municipalities withdrawing from regional school units. This fiscal note assumes that voters in 25% of municipalities that are part of regional school units will vote to withdraw from an RSU in fiscal year 2014-15 and an additional 25% will vote to withdraw in fiscal year 2015-16, resulting in additional administrative costs to these local school administrative units.