

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/5/15

(Filing No. H-315)

Minority

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 946, L.D. 1396, Bill, "An Act Regarding Educational Standards for Maine Students"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 (page 1, lines 34 to 39 and page 2, lines 1 to 20 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §6209, first ¶, as amended by PL 2015, c. 40, §5, is further amended to read:

Nothing in this section requires any school administrative unit to use all or any part of standards adopted under this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no state funds may be withheld from a school administrative unit or school for refusal to adopt or use the standards established under this section. The department in consultation with the state board shall by rule establish and implement a comprehensive, statewide system of learning results, which may must include ~~a core of~~ standards in English language arts and, mathematics, science and social studies for kindergarten to grade 12 ~~established in common with the other states~~, as set forth in this section and in department rules implementing this section and other curricular requirements. The department ~~must~~ shall establish accountability standards at all grade levels in the areas of mathematics; reading and writing; social studies; and science ~~and technology~~. The department shall establish parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements in English language arts; mathematics; science ~~and technology~~; social studies; career and education development; visual and performing arts; health, physical education and wellness; and world languages. Only students in a public school, a public charter school as defined in section 2401, subsection 9 or a private school approved for tuition that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students, as determined by the previous school year's October and April average enrollment, are required to participate in the system of learning results set forth in this section and in department rules implementing this section and other curricular requirements. The commissioner shall develop accommodation provisions for instances where course content conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of a student's parent or guardian. The system must be adapted to accommodate children with disabilities as defined in section 7001, subsection 1-B. The commissioner

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1 may not adopt any model curricula that are aligned with the content standards adopted
2 under this section.'

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, makes a technical
5 change to the bill to reflect changes in law enacted by Public Law 2015, chapter 40.

6 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

7 **(See attached)**



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1396

LR 1487(02)

An Act Regarding Educational Standards for Maine Students

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A (H-315)

Fiscal Note

Undetermined current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Undetermined current biennium cost increase - local school administrative units

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The cost to the Department of Education to implement the requirements of this legislation can not be determined at this time but is expected to be significant.

This bill requires the Department of Education to:

- 1) Stop the adoption and implementation of the common core standards as the State's content standards for English language arts and mathematics and void any prior actions taken to adopt or implement the common core state standards.
- 2) Furnish SAU's with assessments for elementary and secondary schools that were implemented during the 2013-2014 school year in time to be used during the 2015-2016 school year.
- 3) Replace current standards in English language arts and mathematics with new standards that are consistent with the standards in effect in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2009 and adopt or develop assessments that are aligned with the content standards to be used in the 2016-2017, 2017-18 and 2018-2019 school years.
- 4) Adopt new content standards in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies that are distinct and independent from standards previously adopted by the department so that they are in place for the 2019-2020 school year.
- 5) Adopt or develop assessments for elementary and secondary schools in English language arts and mathematics that are aligned with the new content standards for use beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.
- 6) Provide administrative support to 4 committees established to review and approve the new content standards and assessments adopted or developed by the department in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

The requirements and fiscal impact of this legislation on local school administrative units is less clear. This legislation does not require SAU's to use all or any part of the content standards developed or adopted by the department. However, this bill voids the State's content standards for English language arts and mathematics that were formulated to align with the common core state standards as well as any assessment related to the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium or Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. Therefore, the SAU's will need to make some adjustments to their current content standards and assessments, whether they choose to adopt the content standards and assessments that will be developed by the department or to adopt their own set of standards and assessments.