

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/2/17

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
128TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 456, L.D. 642, "Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Identify Special Education Cost Drivers and Innovative Approaches to Services"

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 13 members appointed as follows:

1. A Senate member of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, appointed by the President of the Senate;
2. A House of Representatives member of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
3. A school superintendent representing the Maine School Superintendents Association, appointed by the President of the Senate;
4. A member of a school board representing the Maine School Boards Association, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
5. Two special education directors representing a statewide association of special education directors or teachers, appointed by the President of the Senate. One of the members must be a special education director who serves an urban school administrative unit, and the other member must be a special education director who serves a rural school administrative unit;
6. A principal representing the Maine Principals' Association, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
7. A teacher representing the Maine Education Association, appointed by the President of the Senate;
8. A parent of a student with special needs representing a statewide association of parents of students with special needs, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 456, L.D. 642

1 9. An advocate for students with special needs, appointed by the President of the  
2 Senate;

3 10. A school finance manager or a school business manager, appointed by the  
4 Speaker of the House;

5 11. A special education student who graduated from a school administrative unit in  
6 the State within the last 5 years, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

7 12. An employee of the Department of Education, appointed by the Commissioner of  
8 Education; and be it further'

9 Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 5 and inserting the following:

10 '**Sec. 5. Duties; authorized meetings. Resolved:** That the task force shall  
11 address the rising cost of special education and the maintenance of high-quality services  
12 that accommodate the needs of all children by identifying cost drivers and recommending  
13 innovative approaches to serving students. The task force may hold no more than 5  
14 meetings; and be it further'

15 Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 7 and inserting the following:

16 '**Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 6, 2017, the task force  
17 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested  
18 legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural  
19 Affairs. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit a  
20 bill to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.'

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This amendment adds 4 members to the task force, increasing its membership to 13  
23 members, and authorizes the task force to hold up to 5 meetings. The amendment also  
24 clarifies that the task force report must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on  
25 Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to submit a bill to the Second  
26 Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

27 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

28 (See attached)



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 642

LR 787(02)

**Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Identify Special Education Cost Drivers and Innovative Approaches to Services**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-106)**  
**Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Cost/Study

#### Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$1,500 in fiscal year 2017-18. The Legislature's proposed budget includes \$10,000 in fiscal year 2017-18 for legislative studies. Whether this amount is sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Department of Education to serve on the task force can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.