

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 826

S.P. 272

In Senate, March 2, 2017

**An Act To Prioritize the Renovation of Existing Underutilized
Schools in Conjunction with the Closing of Nearby Schools Due to
Declining Enrollment**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARPENTER of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative STEWART of Presque Isle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §6006-F, sub-§3, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2011, c. 153, §1,
3 is further amended to read:

4 A. To make loans to school administrative units for school repair and renovation.

5 (1) The following repair and renovation needs receive Priority 1 status:

6 (a) Repair or replacement of a roof on a school building;

7 (b) Bringing a school building into compliance with the federal Americans
8 with Disabilities Act, 42 United States Code, Section 12101 et seq.;

9 (c) Improving air quality in a school building;

10 (d) Removing or abating hazardous materials in a school building; ~~and~~

11 (f) Undertaking other health, safety and compliance repairs; and

12 (g) Renovation and repurposing of underutilized space when done in
13 conjunction with closing a school.

14 (2) Repairs and improvements related to a school building structure, windows
15 and doors and water or septic systems receive Priority 2 status.

16 (3) Repairs and improvements related to energy and water conservation receive
17 Priority 3 status.

18 (4) Upgrades of learning spaces in school buildings receive Priority 4 status.

19 (5) The Commissioner of Education may approve other necessary repairs;

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill amends the laws governing the School Revolving Renovation Fund to add
22 renovation and repurposing of underutilized space when done in conjunction with closing
23 a school to the list of projects that qualify for Priority 1 status.