

L.D. 840 (Filing No. H- *393*)

Date: 6-1-17

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MINORITY EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

128TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "H" to H.P. 589, L.D. 840, Bill, "An Act To Expand Educational Opportunities for Students in the Unorganized Territories"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §3252, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL 1985, c. 490, §3, is amended to read:

1. Elementary school privileges provided. The commissioner may provide elementary schooling for resident children by establishing and maintaining such elementary schools as may seem advisable or by sending these children as tuition students to elementary schools elsewhere in the State. A student who was a tuition student at an elementary school prior to the 2016-2017 school year must continue to be accepted as a tuition student at that elementary school until the student is no longer eligible to attend an elementary school. Transportation for the tuition student must be provided by the parent or guardian of the student.'

SUMMARY

24 This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the 25 bill. The amendment provides that a student who resides in an unorganized territory that 26 does not have an elementary school and who was a tuition student prior to the 2016-2017 27 school year must continue to be accepted as a tuition student at that student's current 28 elementary school until that student is no longer eligible to attend an elementary school. 29 The amendment also provides that the parent or guardian of the tuition student who 30 resides in an unorganized territory must provide transportation to the elementary school 31 that the student attends.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 840

LR 78(02)

An Act To Expand Educational Opportunities for Students in the Unorganized Territories

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{H}-393)$ Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - Education in Unorganized Territory

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation allows an elementary school student that resides in an unorganized territory that does not have an elementary school and who attended a public elementary school as a tuition student instead of a state-operated school in the unorganized territory prior to the 2016-2017 school year to continue to be able to attend the public school as a tuition student until the student is no longer eligible to attend elementary school. This provision will result in increased costs to the taxpayers in the unorganized territory beginning in fiscal year 2017-18 if the cost for the student to attend the public elementary school is greater than the cost of that student attending a state-operated school. Although the exact cost can not be determined, the Department of Education estimates the cost to be approximately \$222,466 in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$185,728 in fiscal year 2018-19. The cost of this provision will continually decrease until fiscal year 2025-26 when the last student impacted by this legislation is expected to no longer be attending elementary school.