MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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3   **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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5   **STATE OF MAINE**

6   **SENATE**

7   **129TH LEGISLATURE**

8   **FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

9   COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " _H_ " to S.P. 38, L.D. 151, Bill, "An Act To Align
10   State Law with Current Practice Regarding Required School Attendance"

11   Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

12   '**Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §4502, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

13   **1-A. Developmentally appropriate educational practices; kindergarten to grade**
14   **2.** The commissioner shall adopt rules to address developmentally appropriate
15   educational practices for kindergarten to grade 2. Rules adopted pursuant to this
16   subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 275, subchapter 2-A.'

17   Amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following:

18   '**Sec. 5.   Basic approval standards; rulemaking.**   The Commissioner of
19   Education shall amend the Department of Education rule Chapter 125: Basic Approval
20   Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units to address developmentally
21   appropriate educational practices for kindergarten to grade 2. The rule must be amended
22   to provide for:

23   1. Classroom instruction with hands-on experiences with concrete materials and
24   opportunities for students to interact with the world, ask questions, seek answers to
25   questions and reflect on learning;

26   2. Instruction that includes integration of learning experiences from all content areas
27   arranged around themes relevant to the lives of students in kindergarten to grade 2; and

28   3. An integrated school day that includes opportunities for student-centered and
29   teacher-directed time combined with large and small group instruction.

30   Rules adopted or amended pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as
31   defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.   The
32   commissioner shall provisionally adopt the amended rules and submit the provisionally
33   adopted rules to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council by January 10, 2020.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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

SUMMARY

4 This amendment, which is the majority report, requires the Commissioner of
5 Education to provisionally adopt amendments to the Department of Education rule
6 Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units
7 to address developmentally appropriate educational practices for kindergarten to grade 2.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 151   LR 628(02)

An Act To Align State Law with Current Practice Regarding Required School Attendance

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S 30)
Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Undetermined current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Changing the age at which children are required to begin attending school from 7 years of age to 6 years of age may result in increased costs to local school administrative units (SAU's) beginning in the 2019-2020 school year due to the potential for an increase in enrollment. The impact to individual local SAU's can not be determined and will depend on the number of 6 year-olds that enroll in school as a result of this legislation versus the number that would have enrolled absent this bill. School administrative units will begin receiving state subsidy for these students in the year following their enrollment in school based on the state contribution percentage for that year. If the total state funding is not increased to cover the additional cost, existing subsidy will be redistributed, with some SAU's receiving more funding than they would have received if this requirement had not been in place and some SAU's receiving less.

Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with the rulemaking process can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.