

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Amendment Name: Amendment CA (H-842) (LD 1965 2020)

Date: 8/20/2020

Date: (Filing No. H-)

LABOR AND HOUSING

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1409, L.D. 1965, Bill, “An Act To Set a Minimum Wage for School Support Staff”

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

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4014 is enacted to read:

§4014. Minimum wage for school support staff

1. Minimum wage. For the school year starting after June 30, 2022, and in each subsequent school year, the minimum hourly wage for school support staff is \$16 per hour. For the purposes of this section, "school support staff" means a public school employee who is not an administrator, as defined in section 13001-A, subsection 1, or a certified teacher subject to the minimum salary requirement pursuant to section 13407.

Sec. 2. State contribution. For the school year starting after June 30, 2022 only, notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B, the State shall provide 100% of the additional funding necessary to achieve the minimum hourly wage for school support staff established under Title 20-A, section 4014. The Department of Education shall determine the additional funding necessary to achieve the minimum hourly wage for school support staff for each school administrative unit through the collection of data from school administrative units. A school administrative unit shall provide to the Department of Education on or before October 1, 2021 the current wage per hour paid to school support staff eligible for the minimum wage established in Title 20-A, section 4014.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. Like the bill it establishes a minimum hourly wage of \$16 per hour for school support staff; the amendment applies the requirement for school years beginning after June 30, 2022. On a one-time basis, for the school year beginning after June 30, 2022, the amendment requires the State to provide funds to school administrative units to make up the difference between what a school

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1 administrative unit currently pays school support staff and what the unit is required to pay
2 under the minimum wage requirement.

3

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

4

(See attached)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1965

LR 2777(02)

An Act To Set a Minimum Wage for School Support Staff

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Labor and Housing**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

Future biennium cost increase - General Fund
Future biennium cost increase - local school administrative units

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes a minimum hourly wage of \$16 per hour for school support staff beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. The Department of Education will incur a one-time cost of \$80,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 to the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program to update its data collection system to allow for school administrative units to report hourly wage data for school support staff. Once collected, this data will be incorporated into the essential programs and services (EPS) funding model that is used to calculate the total cost of public education from kindergarten to grade 12. This fiscal note assumes that the department will include a request to fund this initiative as part of its 2022-2023 biennial budget proposal.

Requiring a minimum hourly wage of \$16 per hour for school support staff will increase costs to local school administrative units (SAU's) beginning in fiscal year 2022-23. This bill requires the State to fund 100% of that cost for fiscal year 2022-23 only. No estimate of the cost of this provision for 2022-23 and future years can be made until SAU's provide the required wage information to the department by October 1, 2021.

After fiscal year 2022-23, SAU's will be responsible for funding 100% of the cost of this initiative until the hourly wage data for these school personnel can be collected and incorporated into the EPS funding model. For those components within the model that are expenditure driven, it will be 2 years before the salary increase will be reflected in the total cost of education as determined by the EPS funding model. Other components of the model that are not expenditure driven could be incorporated sooner, allowing for those costs to be reflected in the total cost of education for fiscal year 2022-23. Given this information, the increase in the State's contribution for funding K-12 public education as a result of this legislation will not occur until the 2022-2023 biennium.

The increase in the minimum wage for school support staff may also increase costs to the child nutrition programs, which are not included in the calculation of the total cost of public education for kindergarten to grade 12 and do not receive state subsidy from the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program. Unless General Fund appropriations are provided, SAU's will be responsible for 100% of this cost, as well.