

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SAC
ROS

L.D. 277

Date:

5/4/21

Majority

(Filing No. H- 119)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

130TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 193, L.D. 277, "An Act To Discontinue the Use of the SAT in Maine Schools"

Amend the bill in section 2 in the last line (page 1, line 20 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "requirements." the following: 'By February 1, 2022, the department shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs regarding the alternate method.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment requires the Department of Education to report on its alternate method of assessing student performance to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by February 1, 2022.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 277

LR 290(02)

An Act To Discontinue the Use of the SAT in Maine Schools

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-119)

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Savings from discontinued SAT may offset cost of new assessment method - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill prohibits the Commissioner of Education from using a standardized test known as "the SAT" as a method for assessing student performance and requires the Department of Education to develop an alternate method to replace the SAT by January 1, 2022. The department currently receives approximately \$6.0 million per year for assessments in the areas of science, math and english language arts, and english language proficiency. Of that amount, approximately \$2.4 million is from General Fund appropriations and \$3.6 million is from federal funds. \$950,000 of the \$2.4 million General Fund appropriation is for the cost of the SAT.

Because the department will not be using the SAT as an assessment method in fiscal year 2021-22, it plans to utilize the \$950,000 to contract for the development of an alternate method for assessing student performance as required by this legislation. According to the department, it is currently in negotiations with a new assessment vendor and is unable to determine at this time whether the \$950,000 will be sufficient to cover the cost to develop the new assessment and to fund it going forward. If not sufficient, additional appropriations may be required.