

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1679

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Date: 4/24/22

(Filing No. S-623)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

8 SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 540,
9 L.D. 1679, "An Act To Address Student Hunger through Expanding Access to Free School
10 Meals"

11 Amend the amendment by inserting after the title the following:

12 'Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

13 '**An Act Regarding Expanding Access to Free School Meals'**

14 Amend the amendment by striking out everything after the title and inserting the
15 following:

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

18 '**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6601-A**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 212, §1, is further
19 amended to read:

20 **§6601-A. Free or reduced-price school meals; Internet-based school meal**
21 **applications**

22 The department shall contract for the development and implementation of an Internet-
23 based application for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch
24 Program under 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 210 and the School Breakfast Program
25 under 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 220. The department shall make available to
26 public schools the Internet-based application for free or reduced-price meals developed
27 under this section on the department's publicly accessible website. The department shall
28 make the Internet-based application in an understandable and uniform format and, to the
29 maximum extent practicable, in a language that parents and legal guardians can understand.
30 A public school may make the Internet-based application available for school meal
31 applications on the public school's publicly accessible website. All public schools shall
32 continue to distribute paper applications for school meals to all students. A public school
33 is solely responsible for processing that school's online applications. Data submitted
34 through the Internet-based application may not be visible to the department and must be
35 transmitted directly to the applicable public school. All public schools shall accept data
36 submitted through the Internet-based application.

SENATE AMENDMENT



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1679

LR 1396(04)

An Act To Address Student Hunger through Expanding Access to Free School Meals

Fiscal Note for Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (*S-623*)

Sponsor: Sen. Breen of Cumberland

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$0	(\$34,021,267)	(\$34,021,267)	(\$34,021,267)
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$0	(\$34,021,267)	(\$34,021,267)	(\$34,021,267)

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This amendment strikes certain language in the bill and eliminates the ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$34,021,267 per year beginning in fiscal year 2022-23.

This amendment requires the Department of Education to investigate the cost of providing free and reduced priced meals for publicly-funded students at town academies who are otherwise ineligible to receive free and reduced-price meals and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than February 1, 2023. It also requires public schools to accept data submitted through an Internet-based application for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast program.

As amended, the additional costs to the Department of Education and to local school administrative units to implement the requirements of this legislation can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.