



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 570

S.P. 241

In Senate, February 9, 2023

Resolve, to Provide Information to Maine's School Administrators and Maine Communities About the Financial Advantages of Modern Wood Heating

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

MGT

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook. Cosponsored by Representative SAMPSON of Alfred and Senator: President JACKSON of Aroostook. **Preamble. Whereas,** the Legislature has established the Thermal Energy Investment Fund within the Efficiency Maine Trust to provide incentive funding for the installation of modern wood heating in Maine schools, businesses, municipal buildings and nonprofit organizations; and

5 **Whereas**, the Efficiency Maine Trust has issued a program opportunity notice under 6 which applicants can receive an incentive of 35% of the cost of the heating equipment; and

Whereas, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15908-B requires the State
Board of Education in approving school construction projects to consider heating systems
that use renewable, locally sourced wood-based fuels and that reduce carbon dioxide
emissions and benefit the State's economy; now, therefore, be it

11 Sec. 1. Notification from Commissioner of Education. Resolved: That the 12 Commissioner of Education shall notify school administrators, school boards and 13 communities in the State of the Efficiency Maine Trust's Thermal Energy Investment 14 Program, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10128, and the 15 opportunity to stabilize and reduce annual school heating costs when replacing an existing 16 fossil fuel heating system or planning the heating system for a new school building.

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18 This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to notify school administrators, 19 school boards and communities in the State of the Efficiency Maine Trust's Thermal Energy 20 Investment Program and the opportunity to stabilize and reduce annual school heating costs 21 when replacing an existing fossil fuel heating system or planning the heating system for a 22 new school building.

SUMMARY