

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

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

**‘Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15682, sub-§1** is enacted to read:

**1. Regional adjustment beginning in fiscal year 2008-09.** For fiscal year 2008-09 and each fiscal year thereafter, the commissioner shall make a regional adjustment according to the provisions of this subsection.

A. A school administrative unit whose regional adjustment is computed to be 1.0 or greater must receive a regional adjustment that is less than the adjustment the school administrative unit would have received based on the regional differences in teacher salary costs within labor market areas within the State as computed by a statewide education policy research institute pursuant to this section. The regional adjustments for these school administrative units must be reduced by an amount determined by the commissioner that is closer to the statewide average of all the labor market area teacher salary costs.

B. A school administrative unit whose regional adjustment is computed to be less than 1.0 must receive a regional adjustment that is greater than the adjustment the school administrative unit would have received based on the regional differences in teacher salary costs within labor market areas within the State as computed by a statewide education policy research institute pursuant to this section. The regional adjustments for these school administrative units must be increased by an amount determined by the commissioner that is closer to the statewide average of all the labor market area teacher salary costs.

The commissioner shall determine regional adjustments pursuant to this subsection in a manner that results in no net fiscal impact to the General Fund appropriations for general purpose aid for local schools due solely to the adjustments made to teacher salary and benefit costs pursuant to this subsection.’

## SUMMARY

This amendment is one of the minority reports of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment strikes and replaces the concept draft to require that, for fiscal year 2008-09 and each fiscal year thereafter, the regional adjustment to the salary and benefits costs of teachers and other school personnel that is based on labor market areas in the State must be further adjusted by the Commissioner of Education. The commissioner must annually establish a regional adjustment to teacher salary and benefit costs that decreases the adjustment for school administrative units whose labor market area teacher salary cost adjustment is computed to be greater than 1.0 and increases the adjustment for school administrative units whose labor market area teacher salary cost adjustment is computed to be less than 1.0. The commissioner must accomplish this adjustment in a manner that results in no net fiscal impact to the General Fund appropriations for general purpose aid for local schools due solely to the adjustments made to teacher salary and benefit costs pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15682.