

Date:

(Filing No. H-)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 966, L.D. 1474, “An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §14 in subsection 1 in paragraph D by striking out all of subparagraph (2) (page 1, line 18 in L.D.).

Amend the bill in section 1 in §14 in subsection 1 in paragraph D by renumbering the subparagraphs to read consecutively.

Amend the bill in section 1 in §14 by striking out all of the 2nd indented paragraph (page 1, lines 31 to 34 in L.D.).

Amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 4 in the first blocked paragraph in the first line (page 2, line 31 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "The" and inserting the following: 'Beginning July 1, 2026, the'

Amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 4 in the first blocked paragraph in the first line (page 2, line 31 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "periodically" and inserting the following: 'no less than biannually'

Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 11 in the first line (page 2, line 35 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "shall" and inserting the following: 'may'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 6 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 6. State Board of Education to evaluate rules. The State Board of Education shall, no later than July 1, 2026, evaluate whether the adoption of rules requiring the completion of a Wabanaki studies component in the qualifications for certifying teachers is necessary.

Sec. 7. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Office of Workforce Development and Innovative Pathways Z334

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to continue and make permanent one State Education Representative position currently serving as the Wabanaki studies specialist.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$0	\$147,958
All Other	\$0	\$9,328
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$157,286

Office of Workforce Development and Innovative Pathways Z334

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for a contracted review team to study the Wabanaki studies curricula to assess its implementation.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$100,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$100,000

Office of Workforce Development and Innovative Pathways Z334

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to support the contracted Wabanaki advisors and for professional development, training and technical assistance.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$65,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$65,000

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS

	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$322,286
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$322,286

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

SUMMARY

This amendment removes the requirement for the Wabanaki studies specialist to make recommendations on the funding of Wabanaki studies instruction. The amendment removes from the bill statutory language that requires the Department of Education to fund the work of the specialist and contracted advisors, as well as for the implementation of a teacher education program. The amendment authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt rules to require a Wabanaki studies component for teacher certification and requires the board to evaluate whether to adopt such rules no later than July 1, 2026. The amendment requires that the department begin study of the Wabanaki studies curricula at least biannually beginning July 1, 2026. The amendment also adds an appropriations and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 966, L.D. 1474

1 allocations section, which provides ongoing funds for the specialist position, curricula
2 review and professional development.

3 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

4 **(See attached)**