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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. 1140, L.D. 1705, “An Act Regarding Adult Education Funding and Oversight”

Amend the bill in the emergency preamble by striking out all of the 6th, 7th and 8th paragraphs (page 1, lines 17 to 24 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Whereas, direct appropriations will immediately ease the financial strain felt by adult education programs in the State; and'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §8606-A, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Annual assessment and reporting. The department shall annually assess adult education needs in the State relative to funding appropriated by the Legislature. By December 3, 2025 and annually thereafter, the department shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters with the findings of the assessment. The report must include:

- A. Funding allocated to each adult education program in the State;
- B. The full funding amount that each adult education program in the State is eligible for and the amount that figure has been prorated by the department;
- C. The impact of funding on adult education program outcomes;
- D. Additional funding needs;
- E. A plan for gradually increasing annual funding to adult education programs in order to reach 100% of the State's obligation for adult education funding in accordance with subsection 4; and
- F. Recommendations on improvements to adult education.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 5 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 5. Distribution of funding. The Department of Education shall distribute all funding attributable to adult education programs in the essential programs and services

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 funding formula directly to adult education programs in the State through the subsidy
 2 outlined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 8607-A. The department may
 3 not distribute any funding attributable to adult education programs through a school
 4 administrative unit. The department shall distribute all funding associated with the college
 5 transitions programs under Title 20-A, section 15688-A, subsection 2 directly to adult
 6 education programs through the subsidy outlined in Title 20-A, section 8607-A.

7 **Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 8 allocations are made.

9 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

10 **Adult Education 0364**

11 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to support adult education programs.

12	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
13	All Other	\$300,000	\$0
14			
15	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$300,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

16 **General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308**

17 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for one Education Specialist III position to oversee the
 18 distribution of all funding attributable to adult education programs directly to adult
 19 education programs in the State.

20	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
21	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1,000	1,000
22	Personal Services	\$108,072	\$111,314
23			
24	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$108,072</u>	<u>\$111,314</u>

25 **General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308**

26 Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the technology costs associated with making the
 27 system updates necessary to remove adult education funding from subsidy payments to
 28 local school administrative units and making the payments directly to adult education
 29 programs.

30	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
31	All Other	\$50,000	\$0
32			
33	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$50,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

35 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

36	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
37			
38	GENERAL FUND	\$458,072	\$111,314
39			
40	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$458,072</u>	<u>\$111,314</u>

41 ' ,

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

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment removes from the bill provisions related to the establishment of the
5 Career Advancement and Navigation Program. The amendment adds additional
6 requirements to the Department of Education's annual assessment and report, including the
7 full funding amount each adult education program is eligible for and a plan to achieve 100%
8 funding for adult education. The amendment also requires the department to distribute
9 funding directly to adult education programs rather than through the school administrative
10 unit. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

11 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

12 **(See attached)**