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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
130TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1390, L.D. 1880, “An Act To Provide Textbook Cost Assistance for High School Students Enrolled in Early College Courses”

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

**'Resolve, Directing the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee To Convene a Stakeholder Group To Study Equity in and Access to Early College Programs'**

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

**'Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** this resolve directs the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee, in collaboration with the Maine Independent Colleges Association and the Department of Education, to study a comprehensive approach on equity in and access to the State's early college programs; and

**Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative session; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

**Sec. 1. Stakeholder group. Resolved:** That the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 9, shall convene a stakeholder group, in collaboration with the Maine Independent Colleges Association and the Department of Education, to study a comprehensive approach on equity in and access to the State's early college programs. The stakeholder group shall make findings and recommendations regarding the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

- 1 1. Establishing a state standard for dual enrollment certification;
- 2 2. Improving access to navigational support for high school students;
- 3 3. Increasing how and when public colleges accept credits taken through early college
- 4 programs;
- 5 4. How the cap of 10% of the total funding available to the department for
- 6 postsecondary education that may be used for high school students to take a postsecondary
- 7 course during the summer term pursuant to Title 20-A, section 4776 limits equitable access
- 8 for students;
- 9 5. The current credit limit per semester pursuant to Title 20-A, section 4775;
- 10 6. The eligible student population who may access early college courses and who
- 11 receives or should receive priority for limited spots;
- 12 7. The cost of textbooks or access codes for online textbooks, licensing fees or other
- 13 costs for course materials;
- 14 8. Any recommendations of the State's public higher education and dual enrollment
- 15 stakeholder group and its report on statewide dual enrollment equity in policy, expected to
- 16 be published in April of 2022; and
- 17 9. Any other areas that affect equity in and access to early college programs in the
- 18 State.

19 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating  
20 Committee with the Maine Independent Colleges Association and the Department of  
21 Education shall submit and present a report to the joint standing committee of the  
22 Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters no later than February 1, 2023. The  
23 report must include, but is not limited to, any recommendations pursuant to the study  
24 conducted under section 1, including suggested legislation, to improve the State's early  
25 college programs. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
26 education matters may report out legislation related to the report to the 131st Legislature  
27 in 2023.

28 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
29 takes effect when approved.'

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

## 32 SUMMARY

33 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment directs the Public  
34 Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee with the Maine Independent Colleges  
35 Association and the Department of Education to convene a stakeholder group to study a  
36 comprehensive approach on equity in and access to the State's early college programs. The  
37 stakeholder group is required to present a report to the joint standing committee of the  
38 Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters no later than February 1, 2023 on its

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1390, L.D. 1880

1 findings and recommendations, and the joint standing committee may report out legislation  
2 to the 131st Legislature in 2023.

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**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

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**(See attached)**