

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.

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

Whereas, the Efficiency Maine Trust has issued a program opportunity notice under 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

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

SUMMARY

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