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An Act To Ensure Equitable Geographic Representation on the State Board of Education

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §401, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

1. Appointment. The state board ~~shall consist~~consists of 9 members ~~who shall be~~, appointed by the Governor. Four members must reside in the State's First Congressional District at the time of appointment, 4 members must reside in the State's Second Congressional District at the time of appointment and one member may reside in either the First Congressional District or the Second Congressional District at the time of appointment. Each appointment ~~shall be~~is subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and to confirmation by the Legislature.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §401, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1987, c. 851, §2, is further amended to read:

2. Composition. The membership of the state board ~~shall~~must be broadly representative of the ~~public and the geographic~~ regions of the State and of municipalities of varying sizes. A person whose income is derived in substantial portion from work as a teacher or as an administrator in an educational institution ~~may~~is not be eligible for appointment to or service on the state board. Members must have a strong interest in and knowledge of education.

Sec. 3. Transition. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 401, subsection 1, members serving on the State Board of Education on the effective date of this Act continue to serve for the remainder of the terms for which they were appointed. After the expiration of the terms of members serving on the effective date of this Act, the appointment of members to fill vacancies on the State Board of Education must be made consistent with the provisions of Title 20-A, section 401 as amended by this Act.

Effective September 20, 2007