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An Act Regarding School Construction

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRS §15905, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2005, c. 683, Pt. J, §1 and affected by §2, is further amended to read:

4. Rules. The state board may adopt or amend rules relating to the approval of school construction projects. The rules must allow a school administrative unit to begin the school construction planning process without losing points in the Department of Education's rating system used to develop any priority lists for funding school construction projects. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection relating to the approval of major capital school construction projects under this chapter are major substantive rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

The state board is encouraged to review school construction rules regarding costs per square foot, consider other measures for containing building costs and report on these efforts to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters during the First Regular Session of the 115th Legislature. On or before February 1, 1994 the state board shall adopt rules for approving movable equipment costs for school construction.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the State Board of Education to amend its rules regarding major capital school construction projects to allow a school administrative unit to begin the school construction planning process without being penalized on any of the Department of Education's school construction priority lists.