



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 277

LR 290(02)

## An Act To Discontinue the Use of the SAT in Maine Schools

### Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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### Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Savings from discontinued SAT may offset cost of new assessment method - General Fund

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill prohibits the Commissioner of Education from using a standardized test known as "the SAT" as a method for assessing student performance and requires the Department of Education to develop an alternate method to replace the SAT by January 1, 2022. The department currently receives approximately \$6.0 million per year for assessments in the areas of science, math and english language arts, and english language proficiency. Of that amount, approximately \$2.4 million is from General Fund appropriations and \$3.6 million is from federal funds. \$950,000 of the \$2.4 million General Fund appropriation is for the cost of the SAT.

Because the department will not be using the SAT as an assessment method in fiscal year 2021-22, it plans to utilize the \$950,000 to contract for the development of an alternate method for assessing student performance as required by this legislation. According to the department, it is currently in negotiations with a new assessment vendor and is unable to determine at this time whether the \$950,000 will be sufficient to cover the cost to develop the new assessment and to fund it going forward. If not sufficient, additional appropriations may be required.