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Legislative Document

No. 1962

S.P. 700

In Senate, February 7, 2022

An Act To Increase Learning Potential by Providing High-impact Tutoring Grants

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 3, 2022. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RAFFERTY of York.

Cosponsored by Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, President JACKSON of Aroostook, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: CROCKETT of Portland, DODGE of Belfast, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, ROCHE of Wells.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 320** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 320**

4 **HIGH-IMPACT TUTORING GRANT PROGRAM FUND**

5 **§9101. High-impact Tutoring Grant Program Fund; standards; tutoring plan**

6 **1. High-impact Tutoring Grant Program Fund.** The High-impact Tutoring Grant
7 Program Fund, referred to in this chapter as "the fund," is established as a nonlapsing fund
8 in the department to encourage the facilitation of so-called high-impact tutoring for local
9 education providers throughout the State through the award of grants to eligible local
10 education providers. The commissioner shall administer the fund. For the purposes of this
11 chapter, "local education provider" means a school administrative unit, a school in the
12 unorganized territory pursuant to chapter 119, a public charter school pursuant to chapter
13 112 or a school or program established under subpart 2.

14 **2. Standards for award of grants.** The commissioner shall establish eligibility
15 standards for the award of grants from the fund under this section to local education
16 providers and determine the allowable uses of grant money by eligible local education
17 providers, including but not limited to hiring or contracting for tutors; providing stipends
18 or other incentives to teachers, paraprofessionals, retired teachers and community
19 organizations; developing curricula and related supplies; covering costs associated with
20 renting or purchasing physical space for tutoring; and paying administrative expenses.

21 **3. Tutoring plan; eligibility.** To be eligible for a grant under this section, a local
22 education provider must submit a tutoring plan to the department. To the extent practicable,
23 the plan must include tutoring that is:

24 A. Provided for groups of 4 or fewer students;

25 B. Provided by the same tutor for the same group of students throughout the school
26 year;

27 C. Provided a minimum of 3 times per week;

28 D. Provided during the school day in a manner that supplements, and does not
29 supplant, regular academic instruction;

30 E. Provided by high-quality, trained tutors, including but not limited to teachers,
31 paraprofessionals or community providers;

32 F. Aligned with the local education provider's academic standards using high-quality
33 curricula;

34 G. Data-driven, with interim assessments to monitor student progress; and

35 H. Targeted to all students in a grade level or school.

36 If a tutoring plan does not include all of the components in this subsection, the plan must
37 address the reason for the modification or omission and how the local education provider
38 intends to achieve the same desired student outcomes.

1 **4. Priority.** The commissioner shall prioritize grant awards for tutoring plans
2 submitted pursuant to subsection 3 serving students from low-income households or
3 underserved students to address learning loss or unfinished learning due to extended gaps
4 or interruptions in a student's education.

5 **§9102. Reports; rulemaking**

6 **1. Grant recipient report.** In each year in which a local education provider receives
7 a grant pursuant to section 9101 for a tutoring plan submitted pursuant to section 9101,
8 subsection 3, the local education provider shall submit a report to the department. The
9 report must include:

10 A. The number of students who are participating in the tutoring plan, including
11 demographic information;

12 B. Any adjustments made to the tutoring plan and the reason for those adjustments;

13 C. How the local education provider maintained consistent access for participating
14 students to instruction in the core curriculum and other instruction;

15 D. How grants were used by the local education provider and a summary of other
16 resources used;

17 E. The criteria used to place students in the tutoring plan;

18 F. The student outcomes associated with the tutoring plan; and

19 G. Whether the tutoring plan will continue in the following school year and, if not, the
20 reason the tutoring plan will not continue.

21 **2. Biennial report.** Beginning January 15, 2023, and biennially thereafter, the
22 department shall submit a report to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the
23 Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters on the uses of the fund and the
24 tutoring plans submitted pursuant to section 9101, subsection 3. The report must include:

25 A. Detailed information on the grants awarded, the participating local education
26 providers, the duration of the tutoring plans and a summary of the information provided
27 by the local education providers pursuant to subsection 1;

28 B. Highlights of high-performing local education providers, including those that have
29 improved student learning through high-impact tutoring, and descriptions and analysis
30 of practices that contributed to these improvements and any descriptions and
31 explanations submitted by local education providers of strategies, services and tutoring
32 plans that have been implemented and demonstrate effectiveness in addressing learning
33 and achievement gaps;

34 C. Detailed plans for the expansion of existing tutoring plans and any applications or
35 proposed applications for federal, local or foundation grant funding;

36 D. Any other actions that the department identifies that would result in efficient
37 expansion of tutoring plans in this State with a target of expanding plans by at least
38 20% each year;

39 E. The department's plan to increase tutoring plans; and

40 F. Any suggested legislation or budget recommendations necessary to improve the
41 fund or tutoring plans.

