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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
127TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 6, L.D. 3, Bill, “An Act To Ensure Consistent Certification of Graduation Standards in Publicly Funded Secondary Schools”

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause and before section 1 the following:

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §2412, sub-§5, ¶¶J and K** are enacted to read:

J. Public charter schools are subject to the same proficiency-based diploma standards set forth in section 4722-A and are eligible for the same transition grants as applicable to noncharter public schools in the State pursuant to section 4722-A, subsection 4.

K. A public charter school that operates a public preschool program must comply with department rules for basic school approval standards for public preschool programs in accordance with section 4271, subsection 4 and section 4502, subsection 9.

**Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §2901, sub-§2, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

A. ~~Currently~~ A private school approved for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students that is currently accredited by ~~the~~ a commission on independent schools of a New England Association association of Colleges and Secondary Schools schools and colleges in fulfillment of its standards of accreditation and indicators and that also meets the applicable requirements of the system of learning results established in section 6209; or

**Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §2902, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 669, §2, is further amended to read:

**3. Courses required by law.** Provide instruction in elementary schools as specified in sections 4701, 4704, 4706 and 4711 and in secondary schools as specified in sections 4701, 4704, 4706, 4722, 4722-A, 4723 and 4724.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or  
2 section number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment retains the provisions of the bill that clarify that public charter  
5 schools are subject to the provisions established under the system of learning results,  
6 including the statewide assessment program designed to measure students' academic  
7 achievement, that apply to public schools and private schools approved for tuition  
8 purposes that enroll at least 60% publicly funded students. This amendment adds the  
9 following provisions to the bill.

10 1. It provides that public charter schools are subject to the provisions established  
11 under the state standards initiated for awarding proficiency-based diplomas in the Maine  
12 Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4722-A and also provides that public charter schools  
13 are eligible for transition grants to implement the proficiency-based diploma standards.

14 2. It provides that a public charter school that operates a public preschool program  
15 must comply with the rules adopted by the Department of Education regarding basic  
16 school approval requirements for public preschool programs.

17 3. It updates a reference to the organization that approves accreditation for secondary  
18 private schools as part of the basic school approval provisions for private schools and  
19 revises this basic school approval provision to specify that a private school approved for  
20 tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students may be approved under  
21 this provision if it also meets the requirements of the system of learning results.

22 4. It requires that private secondary schools approved for attendance purposes by the  
23 Department of Education include the instruction required by the provisions established  
24 under the state standards initiated for awarding proficiency-based diplomas to secondary  
25 school students.

26 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

27 **(See attached)**