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Date: (Filing No. H-)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 23, L.D. 25, Bill, “An Act To Exclude Certain State-funded Costs from the State Share of the Total Cost of Funding Public Education”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, a supplemental budget bill enacted during the 125th Legislature redefined the calculation of the state share percentage of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to include the state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance; and

Whereas, the initiated legislation enacted in 2005 to implement the 2004 citizen's initiative that requires the State to provide 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act did not include the total state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance as part of the total costs of essential programs and services required under the school funding laws; and

Whereas, it is necessary to restore the standard defined and voted on by the citizens of the State in 2004 by replacing the provision that includes the total state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance as part of the total costs of essential programs and services required under the school funding laws before June 30, 2013; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15671, sub-§7, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 1, Pt. C,
3 §2, is further amended to read:

4 C. ~~Beginning in fiscal year 2011-12, the~~ The annual targets for the state share
5 percentage of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12
6 including the cost of the components of essential programs and services ~~plus the state~~
7 ~~contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired~~
8 ~~teachers' life insurance~~ are as follows.

- 9 (1) For fiscal year 2011-12, the target is 49.47%.
- 10 (2) For fiscal year 2012-13, the target is 49.35% .
- 11 (3) For fiscal year 2013-14 and succeeding years, the target is 55%.

12 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
13 allocations are made.

14 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

15 **General Purpose Aid for Local Schools 0308**

16 Initiative: Provides for the additional funds necessary to achieve the statutory
17 commitment for the State to fund 55% of the total cost of funding public education from
18 kindergarten to grade 12 beginning in fiscal year 2013-14.

19	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
20	All Other	\$153,600,000	\$152,400,000
21			
22	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$153,600,000</u>	<u>\$152,400,000</u>

23 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
24 legislation takes effect when approved.'

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on
27 Education and Cultural Affairs, adds an emergency preamble and clause to the bill, but
28 retains the provision in the bill that the state contributions to teacher retirement, retired
29 teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance may not be included in the
30 calculation of the state share percentage of the total cost of funding public education from
31 kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.
32 The amendment provides that the state share percentage target for fiscal year 2013-14 and
33 succeeding years is 55%.

34 This amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

35 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

36 (See attached)