

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37

Date: (Filing No. H- )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 458, L.D. 666, Bill, “An Act To Limit the Amount a School Administrative Unit May Spend without Voter Approval”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, To Create a Working Group To Survey Maine Schools on the Costs and Benefits of Contracting for Energy Conservation Improvements'**

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

**'Sec. 1. Department of Education to convene working group. Resolved:** That the Department of Education shall convene a working group to study the opportunities and challenges presented to school administrative units with respect to implementing energy savings programs and entering into agreements for energy conservation improvements for public schools in the State. The working group shall conduct a survey of school boards and superintendents in the State and evaluate the costs and benefits of energy savings programs established by school boards, including agreements entered into by school administrative units in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15915. The working group shall request that school boards and superintendents provide copies of school administrative units' agreements for energy conservation improvements and financial information related to such agreements or other energy savings programs. The working group shall also consider other options available to school boards that can reduce the costs and increase the benefits of energy savings programs and energy conservation improvements; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Working group; report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Education shall seek to include in the working group under section 1 state agency officials, school board members, superintendents, school budget managers, energy efficiency specialists and other persons, groups or entities that have an interest in energy savings programs and energy conservation improvements in public schools in the State. The Commissioner of Education shall invite to serve as members of the working group representatives of the following state agencies and educational associations, who are appointed by their respective agencies or associations:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

- 1 1. The Department of Education;
- 2 2. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General
- 3 Services;
- 4 3. The Efficiency Maine Trust;
- 5 4. The Maine School Boards Association;
- 6 5. The Maine School Superintendents Association; and
- 7 6. The Maine Association of School Business Officials.

8 By January 10, 2014, the Department of Education shall report the findings and  
9 recommendations of the working group along with any suggested legislation to the Joint  
10 Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The joint standing committee  
11 may submit a bill regarding the subject of the report to the Second Regular Session of the  
12 126th Legislature; and be it further

13 **Sec. 3. Funding. Resolved:** That the costs to convene the working group and to  
14 conduct the study required pursuant to section 1 must be absorbed within existing  
15 budgeted resources of the Department of Education and through the use of federal and  
16 private funds received by the Department of Education; the Department of Administrative  
17 and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services; and the Efficiency Maine Trust to  
18 carry out the purposes of this resolve.'

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve that directs the  
21 Department of Education to convene a working group to study the opportunities and  
22 challenges presented to school administrative units with respect to implementing energy  
23 savings programs, including entering into agreements for energy conservation  
24 improvements, and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural  
25 Affairs by January 10, 2014. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill  
26 to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.