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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  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 897, L.D. 1402, “An Act to Provide an Additional Allocation in the School Funding Formula to Cover Tax-exempt Property or a Large Economically Disadvantaged Student Population”

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

**'An Act Regarding Unobligated Balances from Amounts Appropriated for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and to Require Annual Reports on School Demographics'**

Amend the bill by striking out all of the emergency preamble.

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §254, sub-§20** is enacted to read:

**20. Annual demographic profile report.** By January 15, 2025 and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters a report on the demographic profiles of public schools and public school students in the State.

**Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15689-B, sub-§8,** as enacted by PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §61 and affected by §§72 and 74 and c. 12, Pt. WW, §18, is amended to read:

**8. Unobligated balances.** Unobligated balances from amounts appropriated for general purpose aid for local schools may not lapse but must be carried forward to the next fiscal year and, on or before October 1st of each year, at least 60% of the unobligated balances must be transferred to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the School Revolving Renovation Fund established under Title 30-A, section 6006-F.

**Sec. 3. Development of annual demographic profile report.** The Commissioner of Education shall consult with the Education Research Institute and Education Research Institute Steering Committee established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10 on the initial development of the annual demographic profile report required pursuant to Title 20-A, section 254, subsection 20.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment replaces the bill, changes the title and removes the emergency  
5 preamble and clause. The amendment requires the Commissioner of Education to report  
6 annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
7 education matters on the demographic profiles of public schools and students in Maine and  
8 to consult with the Maine Education Policy Research Institute and its steering committee  
9 on the initial development of the demographic profile report.

10 This amendment also requires that, of the unobligated balances in the Department of  
11 Education's general purpose aid for local schools account that are carried forward to the  
12 next fiscal year, at least 60% must be transferred to the School Revolving Renovation Fund  
13 no later than October 1st of each year.

14 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

15 **(See attached)**