

Date: (Filing No. S- )

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " " to S.P. 161, L.D. 569, Bill, "An Act To Support and Encourage the Use of Online Textbooks"

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

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSa §254, sub-§13 is enacted to read:

13. Technical assistance; professional development and training for instruction in digital literacy; clearinghouse for information on use of online learning resources.

The commissioner shall develop a program of technical assistance, including professional development and training for instruction in digital literacy and the establishment of a clearinghouse for information on the use of online learning resources that may be made available to all school administrative units, including those schools that participate in the learning through technology program under section 15689-A, subsection 12-A, which provides one-to-one wireless computers for 7th grade, 8th grade and high school students and educators.

The technical assistance must include, but is not limited to:

A. A model for instruction that promotes digital literacy for students;

B. A clearinghouse for information on the use of online learning resources, including best practices in the use of open educational resources and open-source textbooks; and

C. Professional development and training for educators in the effective use of online learning resources, including open educational resources and open-source textbooks.

The program of technical assistance provided by the department may be used by those schools and educators who choose to provide instruction in digital literacy and who choose to use online learning resources, including best practices in the use of open educational resources and open-source textbooks. The program of technical assistance provided by the department must be available to all school administrative units in the State and posted on the department's publicly accessible website.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1           **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15689-A, sub-§12-A**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 213, Pt.  
2 C, §11, is further amended to read:

3           **12-A. Learning through technology.** The commissioner may pay costs attributed  
4 to staff support consisting of one Education Team and Policy Director position, 2  
5 Education Specialist III positions, one Planning and Research Associate I position, one  
6 Director of Special Projects position and 2 Education Specialist II positions, professional  
7 development and training in the use of open educational resources and open-source  
8 textbooks and system maintenance for a program that promotes learning through  
9 technology. A transfer of All Other funds from the General Purpose Aid for Local  
10 Schools account to the All Other line category in the Learning Through Technology  
11 General Fund nonlapsing account sufficient to support the All Other costs and the  
12 agreement that provides one-to-one wireless computers for 7th grade, 8th grade and high  
13 school students and educators may occur annually by financial order upon  
14 recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor.

15           **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA c. 803** is enacted to read:

16   **CHAPTER 803**

17   **DIGITAL LITERACY AND ONLINE LEARNING RESOURCES**

18           **§19251. Digital Literacy Fund**

19           **1. Fund established.** The Digital Literacy Fund, referred to in this section as "the  
20 fund," is established as an interest-bearing account administered by the department.

21           **2. Revenue.** Any private or public funds appropriated, allocated or dedicated to the  
22 fund must be deposited into the fund as well as income from any other source directed to  
23 the fund. All interest earned by the fund becomes part of the fund. Any balance remaining  
24 in the fund at the end of the fiscal year does not lapse but is carried forward into  
25 subsequent fiscal years.

26           **3. Use of fund; technical assistance.** Balances in the fund may be used for the  
27 necessary expenses of the department in the administration of the fund. Balances in the  
28 fund may be used to pay for the development of a program of technical assistance  
29 pursuant to section 254, subsection 13 that designs instructional materials that promote  
30 digital literacy, teacher professional development and training on the use of online  
31 learning resources, new administrative costs and other expenses not related to a learning  
32 through technology program funded under section 15689-A, subsection 12-A and for the  
33 implementation of a new clearinghouse for information on the use of online learning  
34 resources, including best practices in the use of open educational resources and open-  
35 source textbooks for elementary schools, middle schools and high schools.

36           **Sec. 4. Report.** The Commissioner of Education shall develop a program of  
37 technical assistance under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 254, subsection  
38 13 for use by school administrative units beginning in school year 2012-2013. The  
39 commissioner shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural  
40 Affairs by January 15, 2012 on the status of the development of the program of technical  
41 assistance.

1         **Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
2 allocations are made.

3         **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

4         **Digital Literacy Fund N122**

5 Initiative: Provides base allocations for the Digital Literacy Fund to support the  
6 development of a technical assistance program that designs instructional materials that  
7 promote digital literacy, teacher professional development and training in the use of  
8 online learning resources and the implementation of a new clearinghouse for information  
9 on the use of online learning resources.

10	<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
11	All Other	\$500	\$500
12			
13	<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	\$500	\$500
14			

15                                   **SUMMARY**

16         This amendment replaces the concept draft with a bill to direct the Commissioner of  
17 Education to develop a program of technical assistance, including professional  
18 development and training for instruction in digital literacy and the establishment of a  
19 clearinghouse for information on the use of online learning resources that may be made  
20 available to all schools, including those schools that participate in the learning through  
21 technology program that provides one-to-one wireless computers for 7th grade, 8th grade  
22 and high school students and educators.

23         The amendment establishes the Digital Literacy Fund, to be administered by the  
24 Department of Education. Any private or public funds appropriated, allocated or  
25 dedicated to the fund may be used to pay for the development of a program of technical  
26 assistance. The amendment also authorizes the Commissioner of Education to expend  
27 funds allocated to the learning through technology program for the costs of providing the  
28 program of technical assistance.

29         The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

30                                   **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

31                                   **(See attached)**