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Date: (Filing No. S- )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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

**STATE OF MAINE**

**SENATE**

**132ND LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 296, L.D. 681, “An Act Regarding Public Higher Education Funding in the State”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10018 in the first indented paragraph in the first line (page 1, line 4 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "thereafter," the following: 'in addition to any adjustment for inflation.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §10018 in the first indented paragraph in the 3rd line (page 1, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "5%" and inserting the following: '2% above the baseline budget'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

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

**MARITIME ACADEMY, MAINE**

**Maritime Academy - Operations 0035**

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to increase the percentage of the Maine Maritime Academy's total state appropriation as a share of its total operating costs by 2% until the percentage of the total state appropriation as a share of the Maine Maritime Academy's total operating costs equals at least the lesser of the percentage of the University of Maine System's and the Maine Community College System's total state appropriation compared to each respective system's total operating costs.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	\$1,161,107	\$2,380,268
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,161,107</b>	<b>\$2,380,268</b>

'

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

**SUMMARY**

This amendment provides that beginning in fiscal year 2025-26, and each fiscal year thereafter, in addition to any adjustment for inflation, the Legislature must increase the percentage of the Maine Maritime Academy's total state appropriation as a share of its total operating cost by 2% above the baseline budget until the percentage of the Maine Maritime Academy's total state appropriation as a share of the academy's total operating costs equals at least the lesser of the percentages of the University of Maine System's and the Maine Community College System's total state appropriation as a share of each respective system's total operating costs. The amendment changes the percentage increase provided under the bill, which requires an annual increase by 5%.

The amendment also removes the provisions of the bill that establish the Commission to Study the Funding of Public Institutions of Higher Education.

The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**