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Date: (Filing No. S-)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to S.P. 206, L.D. 675, Bill, “An Act To Establish Multidistrict Online Classes in Maine”

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

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §19154, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 330, §4, is amended to read:

3. Agreements to share access to programs and courses. ~~School~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, school administrative units may develop agreements to share access to online learning courses and programs ~~offered by other school administrative units.~~

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §19154, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Pilot project for full-time online enrollment. A student may enroll full time in an online program during the 2012-2013 school year, the 2013-2014 school year and the 2014-2015 school year, as long as:

A. The online course is consistent with the content standards and the parameters for essential instruction established pursuant to section 6209;

B. The student notifies the school administrative unit in which the student resides by the April 1st before the start of the school year that the student elects to enroll full time in an online program;

C. No more than 5% of students in a school administrative unit are enrolled full time in an online program; and

D. The total cost for the online program taken by an individual student does not exceed the state average tuition rate calculated under section 5804 for elementary students or section 5805 for secondary students.

In the case of a school administrative unit that offers an online program exclusively to students who reside, and whose parents reside, outside of the State, those students are not subject to the cost limitation in paragraph D.

SENATE AMENDMENT

1 This subsection is repealed July 1, 2015.

2 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §19154-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§19154-A. School administrative unit online learning program**

4 **1. Course offerings.** A school administrative unit may offer an online learning
5 program to students in other school administrative units within and outside of the State as
6 long as:

7 A. The provider of the online learning program is either a school administrative unit
8 in the State, a private school approved for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60%
9 publicly funded students or an online learning provider approved by the department
10 in accordance with section 19153;

11 B. The school administrative unit offering the online learning program provides
12 public notice of the availability of the program through the department website
13 established pursuant to subsection 2;

14 C. If a program is oversubscribed, the school administrative unit gives preference
15 first to a student who is a resident of the school administrative unit and second to
16 other public school students in this State who are not residents of the school
17 administrative unit through the use of a random lottery to select among students;

18 D. A teacher employed by a school administrative unit or a private school approved
19 for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students and provides
20 instruction through an online learning program to students holds a valid teaching
21 certificate in each content area being taught or receive approval from the
22 commissioner to teach a course; and

23 E. A teacher employed by a school administrative unit or a private school approved
24 for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students receives
25 appropriate preservice and in-service training pertaining to the organization of the
26 online classroom, programs and courses, the technical aspects of online education,
27 the monitoring of student assessment and other pertinent training.

28 In the case of a school administrative unit that offers an online learning program or
29 course exclusively to students who reside, and whose parents reside, outside of the State,
30 those students are not subject to the lottery and enrollment preference provisions
31 established for an oversubscribed program in paragraph C.

32 **2. Department website.** The department shall maintain a publicly accessible
33 website listing the online learning program or courses that are made available by school
34 administrative units in accordance with this section. School administrative units offering
35 an online course to students in other school administrative units shall provide the
36 department with the name of the online course, the name of the provider of the online
37 course, a link to more information about the online course, the number of slots available
38 to students in other school administrative units and the tuition rate for each online course.
39 The department shall make this information available on its publicly accessible website
40 and shall update the website regularly.

41 This section is repealed July 1, 2015.

