



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0023

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

PENDER MAKIN
COMMISSIONER

April 13, 2023

Senator Rafferty, Senate Chair
Representative Brennan, House Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and Distinguished Members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee:

LD 1367, An Act Regarding the Funding Formula for Adult Education seeks to examine and revise the state subsidy formula for adult education. This bill asks for an increase of \$1.5 million in adult education subsidy and would require the state office of adult education to notify the Governor and Legislature if adult education allocations drop below 95% of the year before. In such a case the Notification must indicate the total amount necessary to fulfill the state's obligation for reimbursement and the total amount that is available. The total amount necessary to fulfill the state's obligation for reimbursement has been \$11 million for the last 3 years while the total amount available has been \$5.2 million. The reimbursement amount is unique for each adult education program. However, no program is receiving their full reimbursement amount.

Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Education to convene a workgroup of stakeholders to examine the current state funding formula to ensure it meets a set of criteria established in the bill. Adult education subsidy as outlined within Title 20-A, §8607-A was last examined in 2007. The current state formula calculates the amount of adult education subsidy reimbursement programs are eligible to receive. Financial expenditures and revenue figures are collected at the state level. To apply for adult education subsidy, adult education programs must submit three documents from three different sources; 1) a completed EF-X-132 form; 2) a copy of FY22 local warrant(s) that include the date and the local share amount for adult education; 3) the FY22 EF-X-174 Course summary report from the adult education student information system (MaineSTARS).

The Department will be available to provide additional information on LD 1367 and respond to any questions during the upcoming work session.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Megan Dichter'.
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Megan Dichter
State Director of Adult Education

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