



126th Maine Legislature
Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Senator Rebecca J. Millett
Senate Chair

Representative W. Bruce MacDonald
House Chair

WORK SESSION AGENDA

Wednesday, July 31, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Cross State Office Building, Room #202

1. Call to Order [9:00 a.m.]

(Sen. Millett, Senate Chair and Rep. MacDonald, House Chair)

- ❖ Introduction of Education and Cultural Affairs Committee Members and Staff
- ❖ Overview of Work Session agenda items

2. Presentation of Report prepared by Lawrence O. Picus & Associates on Alternative Fiscal Capacity Measures in School Funding Systems [9:15 a.m.]

(Dr. Lawrence Picus, Dr. Allan Odden and Michael Griffith)

- ❖ Overview of the report on Alternative Fiscal Capacity Measures in School Funding Systems as required by the work plan for Part 2 of independent review of the EPS School Funding Laws
- ❖ Committee discussion of policy issues and policy decisions related to the report

3. Report on the Analysis of the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) School Funding Model, including Use of the Evidence-based (EB) Model as an Analytical Lens to Recalibrate the EPS School Funding Model [10:30 a.m.]

(Dr. Lawrence Picus and Dr. Allan Odden)

- ❖ Overview of the EB model
- ❖ Summary of feedback and recommendations received during the July 16-18, 2013 professional judgment panel meetings and stakeholders forums
- ❖ Committee discussion of questions or policy issues related to the recalibration of the EPS School Funding Laws based on the analysis using the EB model

4. Lunch Break [12:00 p.m. or at discretion of Presiding Chair]

5. Report (*Continued*) on the Analysis of the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) School Funding Model, including Use of the Evidence-based (EB) Model as an Analytical Lens to Recalibrate the EPS School Funding Model [1:00 p.m.]

(Dr. Lawrence Picus and Dr. Allan Odden)

- ❖ Summary of feedback and recommendations received during the July 16-18, 2013 professional judgment panel meetings and stakeholders forums
- ❖ Committee discussion of questions or policy issues related to the recalibration of the EPS School Funding Laws based on the analysis using the EB model

6. Break [3:00 p.m. or at discretion of Presiding Chair]

7. Report (*Continued*) on the Analysis of the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) School Funding Model, including Use of the Evidence-based (EB) Model as an Analytical Lens to Recalibrate the EPS School Funding Model [3:15 p.m.]

(Dr. Lawrence Picus and Dr. Allan Odden)

- ❖ Summary of feedback and recommendations received during the July 16-18, 2013 professional judgment panel meetings and stakeholders forums
- ❖ Committee discussion of questions or policy issues related to the recalibration of the EPS School Funding Laws based on the analysis using the EB model

8. Adjournment [5:00 p.m.]

(Sen. Millett, Senate Chair and Rep. MacDonald, House Chair)

- ❖ Preview of agenda items for August 1 meeting
- ❖ Announcements



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WORK SESSION AGENDA

Thursday, August 1, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Cross State Office Building, Room #202

1. Call to Order [9:00 a.m.]

(Sen. Millett, Senate Chair and Rep. MacDonald, House Chair)

- ❖ Introduction of Education and Cultural Affairs Committee Members and Staff
- ❖ Overview of work session agenda

2. Overview of Reports prepared by Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI) as required by the FY 2012-13 Cooperative Project Agreement Work Plan [9:15 a.m.]

(Dr. David Silvernail, University of Southern Maine and Dr. Craig Mason, University of Maine)

- ❖ Overview of the 5 reports prepared by MEPRI as required by the FY 2012-13 work plan included in the Cooperative Project Agreement between the Legislature, the University of Maine System and the Department of Education
- ❖ Committee discussion of questions or issues related to the research reports

3. Report on the Preliminary Analysis of the Costs of Essential Programs and Services (EPS) School Funding Model and the Costs of Alternatives to the EPS School Funding Model based on Comparisons to the Evidence-based (EB) Model [10:45 a.m.]

(Dr. Lawrence Picus, Dr. Allan Odden and Michael Goetz)

- ❖ Presentation of the preliminary cost analyses
- ❖ Committee discussion of questions or policy issues related to the preliminary cost analyses

4. Lunch Break [12:00 p.m. or at discretion of Presiding Chair]

5. Report on the Development of a Funding Distribution for Alternatives to the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) School Funding Model based on Comparisons of the EPS School Funding Model to the Evidence-based (EB) Model [1:00 p.m.]

(Dr. Lawrence Picus, Dr. Allan Odden and Michael Goetz)

- ❖ Presentation of the funding distribution model developed to compare funding levels of alternatives to the EPS Funding Model, including comparison of estimates of alternative funding models on the relative state and local shares of funding required by the alternatives
- ❖ Committee discussion of questions or policy issues related to the funding distribution model

6. Break [2:30 p.m. or at discretion of Presiding Chair]

7. Discussion of Initial Recommendations and Timeline for Part 2 Report Deliverables for the Independent Review of the EPS School Funding Laws [2:45 p.m.]

(Education and Cultural Affairs Committee Members and Staff; Wendy Cherubini, Senior Analyst, OPEGA; Lawrence O. Picus & Associates)

- ❖ Committee policy decisions and initial recommendations for recalibration of EPS model based on comparison to EB model
- ❖ Further analysis required for other deliverables required for the Part 2 report (e.g., Case studies of improving schools) and other school funding issues raised during the 1st session of the 125th Legislature
- ❖ Review of timeline related to the transmittal of the Part 2 report deliverables
- ❖ Discussion of available dates for October and December meetings

8. Briefing on the Audit of Certain Schools by the Maine DHHS Related to Improper Billing for Medicaid Services. [4:00 p.m.]

(TBA, Maine Department of Health and Human Services and TBA, Maine Department of Education;
Note: Maine DHHS and Maine DOE invited to brief Education Committee)

- ❖ Background of recent changes made to the State's Medicaid (MaineCare) rules, including the training and guidance provided to schools on eligibility requirements and billing procedures
- ❖ Current status of the audits involving Maine schools and opportunities to address these issues

9. Adjournment [5:00 p.m.]

(Sen. Millett, Senate Chair and Rep. MacDonald, House Chair)

- ❖ Announcements