

**MAINE SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION/REGIONALIZATION BILLS (as of January 29, 2007)**

PLAN'S DEVELOPER	Sen. Karl Turner, R-Cumberland	Maine Children's Alliance	Maine State Chamber, Maine Education Association, Maine Municipal Association, Maine Hospital Association and Maine Service Centers Coalition	Maine State Board of Education	Governor
NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS	75	Would create funding for 26 "cooperatives" to save money through group purchasing and shared administrative functions.	Would create 26 "planning alliances" for 26 school districts to look for efficiencies and other cost savings.	Would create 65 school districts	Would create 26 school districts
ESTIMATED SAVINGS	Estimated savings \$25 million annually	No estimated savings.	Estimated savings are \$20 million to \$25 million a year.	Estimated savings are \$82 million over five years. (\$20 million/year)	\$241 million
SCHOOL BOARD STRUCTURE	Regional school boards.	Existing school boards remain intact.	Existing school boards remain intact.	Regional school boards.	Regional school boards
LD #	370				1
LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	Turner	Mitchell and Bowman	Edmunds	Rotundo and Bowman	Budget
NUMBER OF STUDENTS	2,200	TBD	1800-20,000(ish)	3000-4000	1800-20,000
ADDRESSES TEACHER COMPENSATION		TBD	TBD		Regional Contracts
LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD AUTHORITY	No	Yes	Yes	Limited	Limited
TIME FRAME & PROCESS	11 member committee of experts to develop plan for implementation starting July 2008	Regional planning leading to possible consolidation	Regional planning, goal of savings of 10% by 2010	Blue ribbon commission to redraw lines, then a mandatory implementation*	Through the budget, 18 months
STUDENT/TEACHER				15.6:1	17.1 High School

PLAN'S DEVELOPER	Sen. Karl Turner, R-Cumberland	Maine Children's Alliance	Maine State Chamber, Maine Education Association, Maine Municipal Association, Maine Hospital Association and Maine Service Centers Coalition	Maine State Board of Education	Governor
EXPANSION OF LAPTOP PROGRAM	Not directly addressed	Not directly addressed	Not directly addressed	9 <sup>TH</sup> AND 10 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	Yes
SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CHANGES		Uses new High School Construction as incentive for regional districts	Not directly addressed		Not directly addressed
Funding and Technical Assistance for Transition Process		Funding for the Efficient Delivery of Educational services (2% of GPA)	Funding for the Efficient Delivery of Educational services (2% of GPA); Staff ing to be provided by DoE	Yes	Yes \$1.8 M for facilitation, consultants and data development
OTHER		Standardize school calendar, naming of school districts		Savings accounts for higher education Post secondary tuition assistance	Years 13 and 14 paid for at Community college level for Maine Public Higher Education institution

From the Maine Sunday Telegram: <http://pressherald.maintoday.com/news/state/070128schools.html>

Additional Information from Steve Crouse, MEA Government Relations Director (by fax)

The Blue Ribbon commission's recommendations on district restructuring come to the legislature as a bill that requires an up or down vote, no amendments.

Rep. Silsby's LD (not listed here) gives current school districts assistance from the Fund for Efficient Delivery of Services to develop regional services alliances to consolidate, collaborate on or end administrative services.