

MAINE SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION/REGIONALIZATION BILLS (as of February 26, 2007)

PLAN'S DEVELOPER AND TITLE	Senator Peter Mills, R- Cornville; Maine Heritage Policy Center: "An Act to Increase Efficiency in School Administration"	Representative Kim Silsby, D-Augusta: "An Act to Encourage School Administrative Units to Collaborate with Other School Administrative Units"	Senator Karl Turner, R-Cumberland: "Resolved, to Reduce the Number of School Administrative Units and Gain Administrative Efficiencies"	Maine Children's Alliance: "An Act to Reform Public Education by Encouraging Regional Approaches"	Coalition : MSC, MEA, MMA, MHA and Maine Service Centers: "An Act to Ensure Responsible Government Spending and Investment"	Maine State Board of Education: "Bipartisan School Redistricting Panel Established"	Governor: "An Act to Create Learning Communities in Maine"
NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS	22 "educational cooperatives"	Determined by regional cooperative	75	Would create funding for 26 "cooperatives" to save money through group purchasing and shared administrative functions.	Search for the Bill to read it at: http://janus.state.me.us/legis/LawMakerWeb/search.asp	Would create 65 school districts	Would create 26 school districts
ESTIMATED SAVINGS			Estimated savings \$25 million annually			Estimated savings are \$82 million over five years. (\$20 million/year)	\$241 million over 3 years (\$80 million annually)
SCHOOL BOARD STRUCTURE	Existing School Boards remain	Determined by regional cooperative	Regional school boards.	Existing school boards remain intact.		Regional school boards.	Regional school boards
LR OR LD #	LR 1415	LR 1148	LD 370	LD 464	LD 804	LR 1619	LD 499, Part MM
LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	Mills	Silsby	Turner	Sen. Libby Mitchell	Sen. Beth Edmunds	Sen. Peggy Rotundo	Budget
NUMBER OF STUDENTS	Minimum: 1,200	Minimum: 2,800	2,200	TBD		3000-4000	1800-20,000
ADDRESSES TEACHER COMPENSATION	Collective Bargaining at Regional level	Determined by regional cooperative		TBD			Regional Contracts

PLAN'S DEVELOPER	Senator Peter Mills	Representative Kim Silsby	Senator Karl Turner	Maine Children's Alliance	Coalition: MMA, MEA, Maine Chamber, MHA and Maine Service Centers	Maine State Board of Education	Governor
LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD AUTHORITY	Yes		No	Yes		Limited	Limited
TIME FRAME & PROCESS	2008	Districts from cooperative; set cost-savings Administrative Services goals; given financial incentives	11 member committee of experts to develop plan for implementation starting July 2008	Regional planning leading to possible consolidation		Blue ribbon commission* to redraw lines, then a mandatory implementation	Through the budget, 18 months
STUDENT/TEACHER		Determined by regional cooperative				15.6:1	17.1 High School
EXPANSION OF LAPTOP PROGRAM	Yes	Not directly addressed	Not directly addressed	Not directly addressed		9 TH AND 10 TH GRADE	Yes
SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION CHANGES		Not directly addressed		Uses new High School Construction as incentive for regional districts			Not directly addressed
Funding and Technical Assistance for Transition Process		Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational services (2% of GPA)		Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational services (2% of GPA)		Yes	Yes \$1.8 M for facilitation, consultants and data development
OTHER	Common calendar; Abolishes school unions; School year lengthened to 190 days	Statewide Commission for Efficient Delivery of Educational Services		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