

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Improve the Administration of School Food Service Programs'

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

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

B. Shall hire the necessary employees to manage and operate their school food service programs. A school board shall designate a person to serve as the food service director. A food service director may be hired by more than one school administrative unit pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into under chapter 113-A.

Sec. 2. Commissioner of Education to develop qualifications for food service directors and provide assistance to school administrative units. No later than January 15, 2012, the Commissioner of Education shall establish qualifications for food service directors through rulemaking under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6602, subsection 5. The commissioner may adopt rules that recognize experience and demonstrated skills in place of educational requirements.

The Department of Education shall facilitate the sharing of information among food service directors, including menus, nutritional information, cooperative buying opportunities and guidance on food safety regulations. The Commissioner of Education shall make a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than February 1, 2012 consisting of the rules adopted pursuant to this section and actions taken to facilitate the sharing of information.

Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 3. Effective date. That section of this Act that amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6602, subsection 3, paragraph B takes effect August 1, 2012.'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It changes the requirement in the bill that a school board hire a professional food service director meeting certain qualifications to a requirement that a school board designate a person to serve as the food service director. It directs the Commissioner of Education to use existing rulemaking authority to establish qualifications for a food service director. It directs the Department of Education to facilitate the sharing of information among food service directors and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on these efforts. It adds an effective date of August 1, 2012 to the requirement that a school board designate a food service director.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)