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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
125TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 121, L.D. 139, Bill, “An Act To Eliminate the Penalty for Schools That Did Not Reorganize”

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

**'An Act To Reduce the Time Period after Which a Member Municipality May Petition To Withdraw from a Regional School Unit'**

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

**'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1466, sub-§1,** as enacted by PL 2009, c. 580, §9, is amended to read:

**1. Petition.** ~~The Beginning January 1, 2012, the~~ residents of a municipality that has been a member of a regional school unit for at least ~~3-years~~ 30 months may petition to withdraw from the regional school unit in accordance with this subsection.

A. Ten percent of the number of voters in the municipality who voted at the last gubernatorial election must sign the petition to withdraw from the regional school unit.

B. At least 10 days before the special election called pursuant to this paragraph, the municipal officers of the municipality within the regional school unit shall hold a posted or otherwise advertised public hearing on the petition. The municipal officers shall call and hold a special election in the manner provided for the calling and holding of town meetings or city elections to vote on the withdrawal from the regional school unit.

C. The petition to withdraw from the regional school unit must be approved by secret ballot by a majority vote of the voters present and voting before it may be presented to the regional school unit board and the commissioner. Voting in towns must be conducted in accordance with Title 30-A, sections 2528 and 2529, even if the towns have not accepted the provisions of Title 30-A, section 2528, and voting in cities must be conducted in accordance with Title 21-A.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 For the purposes of this subsection, the ~~3-year~~ 30-month period after which a petition to  
2 withdraw may be considered in a member municipality of a school administrative district  
3 that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240,  
4 Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12 is ~~3-years~~ 30 months after the original operational  
5 date of the school administrative district; and the ~~3-year~~ 30-month period after which a  
6 petition to withdraw may be considered in a member municipality of a school  
7 administrative district that did not reformulate as a regional school unit but that became a  
8 member entity of an alternative organizational structure is ~~3-years~~ 30 months after the  
9 operational date of the alternative organizational structure.

10 **Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2012.'

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education  
13 and Cultural Affairs. The amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Beginning January 1,  
14 2012, the amendment reduces the time period from 3 years to 30 months after which a  
15 member municipality may petition to withdraw from a regional school unit.