

## Comparison of Legislation Proposing Initiatives to Regionalize School Districts or Otherwise Achieve Cost-Efficient School Administration

KEY ELEMENTS	LD 499 (Governor)	LR 1386 (Edmonds)	LD 464 (Mitchell)	LR 1148 (Silsby)	LR 1415 (Mills)	LD 370 (Turner)	LR 1619 (Rotundo)
Proponents or Key Informants	DOE Commissioner	“Coalition” of MEA, MMA, Chamber, et al	Maine Children’s Alliance		Maine Heritage Policy Ctr/ Brookings		State Board of Education
Type of Legislation	Emerg. Bill (AFA)	Bill (TAX / EDU)	Concept Draft	Concept Draft	Concept Draft	Resolve	Act or Resolve?
Number of School Administrative Units (SAU)	Mandates shift to 26 Regional Learning Collaboratives (RLC) based on borders of current CTE regions	TBD by 26 regional planning alliances (based on CTE regions)	TBD by 26 regional planning alliances (based on CTE regions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBD by current school boards</li> <li>SAU with 2,800 + students kept intact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22 Educational Co-ops based on borders of 26 CTE regions</li> <li>By 7/1/08, all SAUs must be part of a 1,200-student SAU</li> </ul>	TBD by Committee to Consolidate School Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approx. 65 SAUs</li> <li>TBD by School Redistricting Panel</li> <li>SAUs with 3,000 + students kept intact</li> </ul>
# Students in SAU	1,800 - 20,000 (RLC)	Undetermined	Undetermined	2,800 +	1,200	2,000 - 2,200 (avg.)	3,000 - 4,000
# Students in Shared-Service Units	Not applicable	Undetermined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3,000 + (<math>\geq</math> 1 SAU)</li> <li>or 5,000 + (8 most populous counties)</li> </ul>	2,800 +	3,000 +	Not applicable	Not applicable
Planning Timeframe	May 2007 - July 2008	Oct 2007 - July 2009	Nov 2007 - June 2009	Sept 2007 - July 2009	July 2007 - July 2008	May 2007 - July 2008	May 2007 - July 2008
Implications for SAU Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each RLC to be governed by a school board with no more than 15 members</li> <li>RLC school board elections in Nov 2007</li> </ul>	Planning alliance recommends redesign of SAU types in region, (if any) to each school board in region	Potential for regional planning to result in formation of Regional School Districts, a new type of SAU	Potential for regional planning to result in reorganized SAUs	By 7/1/08, all SAUs must be organized to part of a 1,200-student SAU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abolishes school boards &amp; SAUs, but school &amp; teachers ok</li> <li>Only allows SADs &amp; municipal units</li> <li>June 2008 elections</li> </ul>	Intent that plan and legislation submitted by panel will mandate new SAU boundaries
Implications for Shared-Service Unit Organization	Not applicable	Planning alliance recommends shared-service agreements for SAUs in region to each school board	Potential for regional planning to result in formation of regional cooperatives	Potential for regional planning to result in co-operatives	Co-op governed by regional board with representation from each SAU school board	Undetermined	Undetermined

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Process to Design or Implement Regionalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOE to provide facilitation/consulting</li> <li>RLC school board to establish regional policies, programs and services</li> </ul>	12-member regional planning alliance to work with SAUs and municipalities within region	11-member regional planning alliance to work with SAUs and municipalities within region for a two-year period	13-member Efficient Delivery of Educ. Services Comm. to support, approve and monitor regional co-ops	TBD by statutory provisions as concept draft is fleshed out	9-member Cmte to Consolidate School Admin to submit a plan by 12/3/07 to eliminate current SAUs, school boards & redraw borders	11-member School Redistricting Panel to submit plan and legislation to redraw SAU borders to EDU Cmte by 12/5/07
Incentives and Resources for Design or Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOE to provide facilitation/consulting</li> <li>Provides funding for FTE principal for every school in state</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fund for Efficient Delivery of Educ Services (incentives)</li> <li>Proposes tougher SAU spending limits &amp; override provisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fund for Efficient Delivery of Educ Services (incentives)</li> <li>Proposes tougher SAU spending limits &amp; override provisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fund for Efficient Delivery of Educ Services (incentives)</li> <li>Comm to provide efficiency models</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State to provide interim funds of \$100 per-pupil for Co-ops</li> <li>Co-ops may assess fees to member SAUs or other assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOE, SBE &amp; Leg. Council to staff Cmte</li> <li>Intent that plan &amp; bill submitted by panel mandates new SAU boundaries</li> </ul>	Legislative Council to provide staff to panel
SAU administrative services or instructional programs subject to regional efficiency initiatives	System administration, school unit governance, special education, transportation, facilities and maintenance, and other	Financial mgmt, transportation systems, human resource mgmt, info tech mgmt, supplies and materials, special education mgmt, labor negotiations calendars and procedures	Accounting and payroll, legal services, food service, communications, transportation, maintenance and plant mgmt, special education, collective bargaining, advanced placement courses, foreign language courses	Administrative personnel, financial mgmt; transportation, facilities and maintenance, human resource mgmt, supplies and equipment, fuel and utilities, special education, school nutrition, professional development	Accounting and payroll, legal and medical support, collective bargaining, food service, info tech, transportation, energy and facilities mgmt, purchasing, substitute teachers, special education, gifted & talented, school violence & substance abuse programs, hospital & homebound instruction, distance education, CTE, curriculum & assessment, professional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan to include a statewide business entity and regional business entities to further consolidate admin functions</li> <li>Statewide business entity would provide services such as payroll for all SAUs</li> <li>Regional business entities may be based on the 26 CTE regions to provide services on a regional basis, such as transportation maintenance, transportation scheduling and purchasing</li> </ul>	SAUs and school boards

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Estimated Cost Savings	\$241,145,025 in FY 2009-FY 2011 (state share = \$132,629,764 and local share = \$108,515,261)	Intent to reduce cost of school admin services by at least 10% by FY 2010	Undetermined	Undetermined, but intent to reduce per-pupil admin spending to nat'l avg or peer state avg by FY 2011	Undetermined	Undetermined	Undetermined
Impact on Debt Service or School Construction Policies	State-approved debt incurred by SAUs within the region (on the date the plan takes effect) is transferred to the RSD	TBD	Create and capitalize a regional school construction program	TBD	TBD	Any debt incurred by SAU that exists on the date the plan takes effect remains with the municipalities of the entity that incurred the debt	TBD
Transition Provision – Contracts or Transfer of Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contracts remain in effect</li> <li>• Property transfers to the RSD</li> </ul>	TBD	TBD	TBD	No new employment contracts for merging SAUs beyond 6/30/08 until reform in place	TBD	TBD
Other Proposals	LD 499 also contains following initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 90% property tax reduction</li> <li>• Reduction in EPS student-teacher ratios for middle school and secondary schools</li> <li>• Expand “laptop” program grades 9-12</li> <li>• Include GF approps to GBSD, Magnet School , and Jobs for Maine’s Graduates in the sum of the state share of K-12 educ funding</li> </ul>	If SAU receives “net new GPA funding” & if SAU budget exceeds EPS funding level by more than 5%, then additional spending must be approved by majority of voters in a local referendum unless the governmental body can achieve a 2/3 vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOE to adopt rules to establish education standards for the approval of a SAU that petitions to join or to withdraw from a school district</li> <li>• Standard school calendars</li> <li>• Name SAD/CSDs</li> <li>• Award grants for innovative programs through a competitive request-for-proposal process to enhance the curriculum</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align SAU budget format with EPS cost components</li> <li>• Support laptops for 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders</li> <li>• Extend school year from 180 to 190 days, with 185 days for instruction</li> <li>• Adopt a common regional calendar</li> <li>• Administer a student i.d. system</li> <li>• Establish a protocol for school choice within regional schools</li> </ul>	Schools that are absorbed into new SAU structures under the consolidated school administration plan may create school advisory committees to provide advice and counsel to school principals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DOE to create investment account to provide \$200 for each child born to use at an in-state college</li> <li>• DOE to create 50% tuition assistance program for eligible students to attend</li> <li>• DOE &amp; UMS to run leadership training for teachers and administrators</li> <li>• Include wireless devices for grades 9-12 in EPS targeted funds for technology</li> </ul>