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An Act To Improve Transparency in the School Funding Formula

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15689-B, sub-§2, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 2, Pt. D, §61 and affected by §§72 and 74 and c. 12, Pt. WW, §18, is amended to read:

A. The commissioner shall annually, prior to February 1st, notify each school board of the estimated amount to be allocated to the school administrative unit. Notwithstanding any other law and beginning in fiscal year 2009-10, the commissioner shall notify in writing the governing body and the superintendent of each alternative organizational structure defined under section 1, subsection 26 of the computation and the estimated total amount to be allocated to the alternative organizational structure and to each member entity within the alternative organizational structure.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15689-B, sub-§2, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:

A-1. Beginning in fiscal year 2009-10, the commissioner shall ensure that subsidy printouts distributed to the governing body and the superintendent of each alternative organizational structure pursuant to paragraph A include the computation and the total amount calculated for allocation to the alternative organizational structure and the computation and amount calculated for allocation to each member entity within the alternative organizational structure.

SUMMARY

Current law requires the Commissioner of Education to notify school boards of the estimated amount of state subsidy to be allocated to school administrative units. This bill requires the Commissioner of Education to also provide the governing bodies and the superintendent of each alternative organizational structure with the computation and the amount of the allocation of state subsidy that the commissioner has calculated for the alternative organizational structure and each member entity in the alternative organizational structure.