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Date: (Filing No. H-)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 981, L.D. 1526, “An Act to Provide Grants to Support Reading Proficiency Programming in Schools”

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

'Resolve, to Provide Grants to Support Reading Proficiency Programming in Schools'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Department of Education to provide grants to support reading proficiency programming in schools. Resolved: That the Department of Education, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall award grants to school administrative units to support reading proficiency programming in schools. The department shall establish criteria to award grants to school administrative units. Criteria for awarding grants must include that school administrative units develop programming consistent with the high-quality, evidence-based literacy tenets developed by the department. In awarding grants, the department shall give special consideration to school administrative units serving populations of students with identified reading proficiency achievement gaps, including, but not limited to, reading achievement gaps for economically disadvantaged students and racial and ethnic populations.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 15, 2024, the department shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs a report on the awarding of grants and the criteria used to award grants to school administrative units in accordance with section 1. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Sec. 3. Funding. Resolved: Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer from available resources in the unencumbered balance of the Department of Education, General Purpose Aid for Local Schools, General Fund carrying account to the Office of Innovation, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Education the funding necessary to award grants pursuant to section 1. The total grant awards may not exceed \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2024-25.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

