



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

STEPHEN L. BOWEN  
COMMISSIONER

**EXHIBIT: III.A.**

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Steven L. Bowen, Commissioner\*

DATE: October 11, 2011

SUBJECT: Approval to go to rulemaking for Chapter 115, "Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel"

**BACKGROUND:** On September 28, 2011, changes made to Title 20-A during the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature went into effect. Accordingly, Chapter 115 must be opened to revise the corresponding rules. LD 129, "An Act to Eliminate Dual Certification Requirements for Speech-Language Pathologists" now allows professionals who are licensed by the State of Maine to be employed in Maine schools without needing to hold the Department of Education educational specialist certificate. LD 1094, "An Act to Improve the Delivery of School Psychological Services to Children" eliminates references to the title "School Psychological Service Providers" and changes the title to "School Psychologists." The revised rule reinstates a requirement for supervision during the first year of independent practice in order to renew the initial certificate. It will also reinstate a transcript analysis pathway to certification that was removed during an earlier revision to Chapter 115.

\*Exhibit was prepared by Mark A. Cyr, Certification Coordinator