



PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

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

Stephen L. Bowen
COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT: #VI.G.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner*

DATE: June 13, 2012

SUBJECT: Request for Approval to Proceed with Rulemaking Chapter 132 – Learning Results, Parameters for Essential Instruction

STATEMENT OF FACT: In the early spring of 2011, Maine legislators unanimously passed and Governor LePage signed into law, the adoption of a new set of educational, academic expectations in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics (Math) known as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS are intended to replace the existing academic standards (for ELA and Math) used in the creation of the state's federal accountability assessments required under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and are detailed in Maine Department of Education Regulation (Chapter) 131: The Maine Federal, State, and Local Accountability Standards.

Consequently, the state's instructional and curricular expectations found in Chapter 132 – Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction - need to reflect the changes made to the state assessment system as described above. To this end, the current and entire set of academic standards in ELA and Mathematics contained in the 2007 Maine Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction will be replaced by the respective academic standards comprising the Common Core State Standards.

To reduce confusion, the newly modified Maine Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction which contains the academic expectations for the entire eight content areas will be designated with an asterisk: Maine Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction* with this notation: * The English Language Arts and Mathematics Standards contained within this document are also known as the Common Core State Standards.

The transition from the ELA and Math standards of the Maine Learning Results (MLRs) to the ELA and Math CCSS is designed for implementation across a 3-year progression, resulting in a new state assessment system which measures exclusively the expectations of the CCSS in the spring of the 2014-15 school year.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended by the Department of Education that the State Board of Education approve the proposed amendments to Chapter 132– Learning Results, Parameters for Essential Instruction, as a routing technical rule. It is further recommended by the Department of Education that the State Board of Education authorize proceeding with rulemaking in accordance with the State of Maine Administrative Procedure Act.