

**Exhibit #VI.A.**

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Stephen L. Bowen, Commissioner\*

DATE: January 9, 2013

SUBJECT: Federal Qualified School Construction Bond Program

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

The Department of Education coordinates the Federal Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program. QSCBs are bonds issued by state or local governments which the Federal government subsidizes by providing tax credits to bondholders or direct payment interest subsidies to issuers. Bond proceeds can be used for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities. Maine has a 2010 QSCB balance of \$9,114,156 available for allocation to school units.

Eleven school administrative units submitted QSCB applications to the Department during the current application cycle requesting bonding authority. The Department has completed its review of the applications and verified that the school units on the accompanying list and their proposed projects meet the criteria of using bond proceeds for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of a public school facility or for acquisition of land on which such a facility is to be constructed.

**CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

The Construction Committee considered this exhibit at its January 2, 2013, meeting and is unanimously recommending that the State Board of Education approve the QSCB applications for projects in Brewer, York, RSU 9, RSU 17/MSAD 17, RSU 22/MSAD 22, RSU 25, RSU 44/MSAD 44, RSU 55/MSAD55, RSU 73, RSU 80/MSAD 4 and RSU 88/MSAD 24 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list "2013 QSCB Recommended Approvals." The total current recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2013 is \$9,114,156.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION**

The Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education approve the QSCB applications for projects in Brewer, York, RSU 9, RSU 17/MSAD 17, RSU 22/MSAD 22, RSU 25, RSU 44/MSAD 44, RSU 55/MSAD55, RSU 73, RSU 80/MSAD 4 and RSU 88/MSAD 24 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list "2013 QSCB Recommended Approvals." The total current recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2013 is \$9,114,156.

\*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team