



MAINE SMALL SCHOOLS COALITION

“Advocating for Rural and Community Schools”

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

1.17.2012

LD 1237

Bullying

This is an LD on bullying that was carried over from last session by the Education Committee. They are still working on some of the issues that need to be resolved. This bill deals with direct bullying. There is a second that was carried over that deals with cyberbullying. I will deal with that later.

Some of the issues to be resolved are:

- School Board responsibility off campus.
- Criminalizing the actions of the students. Is that what we want to do with bullying?
- What should the policy scope include? Not include?
- State review of school’s policy---how often?
- Revised bill become a State mandate---leave or change. Mandates need a two-thirds vote in both bodies.
- What is bullying?

Also things as keeping good written records. Communication with law enforcement. The need for training to help people deal w with bullying.

This is not an all inclusive summary, but it gives a general view of what is going on. There are two amendments being considered and I will get them to you as soon as I can. If you have questions or comments, let me know.

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