

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 **Legislative Document**

No. 1871

6
7 H. P. 1878 House of Representatives, January 26, 1982
Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to
Joint Rule 26.

Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence
and 1,600 ordered printed.

8 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Connolly of Portland.

Cosponsor: Representative Baker of Portland.

9
10 STATE OF MAINE
11

12 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
13 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO
14

15 AN ACT to Provide Flexibility with Respect to the School
16 Entrance Age.
17

18 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

19 20 MRSA §859, sub-§1, ¶D is enacted to read:

20 D. Notwithstanding the age requirements of this sub-
21 section, a parent of a child whose birth date is after
22 October 15th, but is on or before December 31st, may
23 appeal to the commissioner to allow their child to be
24 admitted to kindergarten or first grade a year early.
25 The commissioner may grant permission for the child to
26 enter school. The parents shall provide the informa-
27 tion required by the commissioner on their child's
28 readiness to profit from school programs.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2 This bill allows the commissioner flexibility in admit-
3 ting a gifted and talented child to school a year early if
4 the child's birth date falls between October 15th and Janu-
5 ary 1st. At present, there is a single arbitrary cutoff
6 date. A child who is born on October 15th must wait a whole
7 year. The change allows a similar flexibility in school
8 entrance for special education students in school units with
9 kindergartens.

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