

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
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3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
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5 Legislative Document

No. 192

6
7 H.P. 158

House of Representatives, January 29, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

9 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

10 Presented by Representative Crouse of Caribou.

Cosponsored by Representative Bost of Orono.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
16

17 AN ACT to Provide Teacher Professional Time
18 During the School Day.
19

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

22 20-A MRSA §4806 is enacted to read:

23 §4806. Professional planning time

24 Every public school teacher shall be guaranteed
25 at least 45 minutes uninterrupted preparational or
26 professional time, free of student contact or respon-
27 sibility, during each school day. Scheduled in-
28 service days shall not be considered a substitute for
29 this planning time. School administrative units are
30 encouraged to develop innovative staffing patterns,
31 such as differentiated blocks of learning time or
32 team teaching, or to relieve teachers from
33 nonteaching duties, such as study hall monitoring or
34 recess duty, in order to meet this requirement.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

Very frequently teachers, particularly at the elementary level, are assigned duties with students before school, during the entire academic day and after school duties with students, with little or no opportunity for professional planning time. This bill provides professional planning time to all teachers. The report of the Commission on the Status of Education in Maine stated:

"Teachers are called upon to perform many tasks unrelated to classroom teaching during the school day. As a result, they often have insufficient time for thoughtful curriculum preparation, and their classes are interrupted unnecessarily by routine administrative matters. Nonteaching staff can perform these duties and relieve teachers of the burden."

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