

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 14

H.P. 15

House of Representatives, January 2, 2019

An Act To Improve Science and Engineering Education for Maine's Students

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DEVIN of Newcastle.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BLUME of York, EVANGELOS of Friendship, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, STEARNS of Guilford, Senator: POULIOT of Kennebec.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6209, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 489, §3, is further
3 amended to read:

4 The department in consultation with the state board shall establish and implement a
5 comprehensive, statewide system of learning results, which ~~may~~ must include a core of
6 standards in English language arts ~~and~~, mathematics and science for kindergarten to grade
7 12 established in common with the other states, as set forth in this section and in
8 department rules implementing this section and other curricular requirements. The
9 department ~~must~~ shall establish accountability standards at all grade levels in the areas of
10 mathematics; reading; and science and technology. The department shall establish
11 parameters for essential instruction in English language arts; mathematics; science and
12 technology; social studies; career and education development; visual and performing arts;
13 health, physical education and wellness; and world languages. Only a public school, a
14 public charter school as defined in section 2401, subsection 9 or a private school
15 approved for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students, as
16 determined by the previous school year's October and April average enrollment, is
17 required to participate in the system of learning results set forth in this section and in
18 department rules implementing this section and other curricular requirements. The
19 commissioner shall develop accommodation provisions for instances where course
20 content conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of a student's parent or
21 guardian. The system must be adapted to accommodate children with disabilities as
22 defined in section 7001, subsection 1-B.

23 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §6209, sub-§1-A, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 259, §5, is
24 amended to read:

25 C. Science, ~~in those content areas concerning cells and continuity and change.~~

26 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §13704, sub-§3, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 3, §1, is
27 further amended to read:

28 A. The rating must be based on standards of professional practice and measures of
29 educator effectiveness. The proportionate weight of the standards and the measures
30 is a local decision, but measurements of student learning and growth must be a
31 significant factor in the determination of the rating of an educator. School
32 administrative units shall use state assessment growth data for English language arts,
33 literacy, science and mathematics as at least one measure of the performance of
34 English language arts, science and mathematics teachers in tested grades and as a
35 measure for the performance of principals.

36 An educator whose summative effectiveness rating indicates ineffectiveness must
37 receive an annual summative effectiveness evaluation and rating until the rating
38 improves.

39 An individualized education plan may not be used to measure student growth for the
40 purposes of teacher and principal evaluation, but an individualized education plan
41 may be a source of evidence from which learning objectives and learning targets may
42 be developed.

