

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 176

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H.P. 139

House of Representatives, January 17, 2019

### **An Act To Enhance Participation on the State Board of Education**

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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 DODGE of Belfast.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, DRINKWATER of Milford,  
HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, INGWERSEN of Arundel, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, MEYER  
of Eliot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §401, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 179, §2, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **2. Composition.** The membership of the state board must be broadly representative  
5 of the geographic regions of the State and of municipalities of varying sizes. ~~A person~~  
6 ~~whose income is derived in substantial portion from work as a teacher or as an~~  
7 ~~administrator in an educational institution is not eligible for appointment to or service on~~  
8 ~~the state board.~~ Members must have a strong interest in and knowledge of education.

9 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §401, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

10 **6. Release time for state board meeting attendance.** A teacher or administrator  
11 -serving on the state board must be granted release time for attendance at state board  
12 meetings. The state board is responsible for any cost related to the release time.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 This bill eliminates the provision in current law prohibiting teachers and school  
15 administrators from serving on the State Board of Education. It also provides that a  
16 teacher or school administrator serving on the state board must be granted release time for  
17 attendance at state board meetings. Any cost related to the release time is the  
18 responsibility of the state board.