

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 78

H.P. 42

House of Representatives, January 8, 2025

An Act to Require Elementary School Students to Learn Cursive Writing

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 6, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4711**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 190, §1, is further amended
3 by enacting at the end a new paragraph to read:

4 Beginning July 1, 2026, the parameters for essential instruction and graduation
5 requirements adopted by the department pursuant to section 6209 for English language arts
6 must provide for regular instruction in and opportunities to use cursive handwriting
7 beginning no later than grade 3 and continuing to the end of grade 5. The instruction must
8 be designed to enable students to demonstrate competency in cursive handwriting by the
9 end of grade 5.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill requires the Department of Education to provide for regular instruction in and
12 opportunities to use cursive handwriting beginning no later than grade 3. The instruction
13 must be designed to enable students to demonstrate competency in cursive handwriting by
14 the end of grade 5.