

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1588

H.P. 1046

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

An Act to Ensure Transparency in Student Transfer Requests

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham.
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and
Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, COLLINS of Sidney, GRIFFIN of Levant,
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, Senators: HARRINGTON of
York, LIBBY of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §5205, sub-§6, ¶A, as amended by PL 2013, c. 456, §1, is further amended by enacting at the end a new last blocked paragraph to read:

By July 1st of each year, a school administrative unit shall report to the commissioner the total number of transfer requests presented to the school administrative unit in the last year, including requests to transfer to or from the school administrative unit. The report must also state the number of transfers accepted, state the number of transfers denied, include the written description for each denial and specify for each transfer request presented whether the school administrative unit was requested to send or receive the student requesting the transfer. The commissioner shall annually publish a de-identified version of the data on the department's publicly accessible website. For the purposes of this paragraph, "de-identified" means that any potential personal identifying information of a student has been removed.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5205, sub-§6, ¶B, as amended by PL 2013, c. 456, §2, is further amended by enacting at the end a new first blocked paragraph to read:

The commissioner shall publish on the department's publicly accessible website the number of transfer determinations, the number of transfers accepted and the number of transfers denied, including a de-identified version of the written decision required pursuant to this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "de-identified" has the same meaning as in paragraph A.

SUMMARY

This bill modifies the education laws governing student transfers to require greater transparency by school administrative units and the Commissioner of Education. The bill requires school administrative units to report information pertaining to requests by students to transfer either to or from that school administrative unit within the past year. The bill also requires the commissioner to make a de-identified version of that information available on the Department of Education's publicly accessible website, including information related to any transfer request reviewed by the commissioner.