

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

May 2026

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
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Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 529 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

Public Law 2025, chapter 529 was subsequently amended by Public Law 2025, chapter 757 to provide that the requirement for school administrative units to develop and implement a policy regarding access to automated external defibrillators at school-sponsored athletic events begins with the 2027-2028 school year, instead of the 2026-2027 school year as was provided in the originally-enacted law.

LD 783 An Act to Continue Support for the Maine Multicultural Center

Public Law 2025, chapter 743 provides one-time funds to the Maine Multicultural Center in Bangor for one or more positions to establish a comprehensive program for foreign-trained workers through the Maine Multicultural Center. The position or positions will develop and coordinate the comprehensive program, which must be designed to serve foreign-trained workers with an emphasis on serving foreign-trained professionals and seek private funds to support the center's programs and operations.

LD 858 An Act to Ensure Behavioral and Mental Health Services Are Available to Students by Providing Grants to Schools That Contract for Those Services

Public Law 2025, chapter 533 establishes a grant program within the Department of Education to provide grants to school administrative units that contract for behavioral and mental health services provided by licensed behavioral and mental health service providers. It limits the use of funds provided through the grant program to behavioral and mental health services that are not otherwise covered or reimbursable through the MaineCare program and provides that funds must be used in a manner that does not supplant qualified and available school administrative unit behavioral and mental health staff. The law also provides that the amounts of the grants must be based on a school administrative unit's population and provides ongoing funding for the grants starting in fiscal year 2025-26.

Public Law 2025, chapter 533 was finally enacted in both the House and Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 533 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

LD 957 An Act to Integrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander History into the Statewide System of Learning Results

Public Law 2025, chapter 535 includes instruction on Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander history in the Department of Education's required units of instruction on American history and Maine studies. The law requires the department to convene a volunteer advisory committee to collect information and prepare materials for teaching Asian American, Native