

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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LD 2052 Resolve, to Study the Use of Technology in Classrooms and Study Safeguards Related to Its Use

Resolve 2025, chapter 149 directs the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to develop a survey to gather and analyze information from schools in the State regarding the use of technology in the classroom, safety policies and procedures in place and the means employed to ensure compliance with those policies and procedures and to gather information on current guidance about best practices from state and national experts for safe instructional technology use for children. The Institute must share the collected guidance with its steering committee.

Resolve 2025, chapter 149 also directs the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to submit a report based on its analysis, including recommendations, to the Department of Education and suggested legislation, by December 1, 2026 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, which is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Resolve 2025, chapter 149 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 3, 2026.

LD 2098 An Act to Update Certain Higher Education Statutes and Laws

Public Law 2025, chapter 630 repeals certain statutes related to correspondence schools and updates application requirements for degree-granting educational institutions in the following ways.

1. It requires a degree-granting educational institution to pay an application fee for the initial application that reflects the costs to the Department of Education for processing the application, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, and clarifies that temporary approval to use the name “community college,” “college” or “university” may not be used as a basis for a recommendation by the State Board of Education for permanent degree-granting authority.
2. It allows the state board to recommend an educational institution to the Legislature for degree-granting authority without additional review if the state board has approved or renewed approval for the institution to offer academic programs in the State within five years of the institution’s application for degree-granting authority and the institution has applied for degree-granting authority only for degrees for which the institution offers academic programs approved by the state board.
3. It requires the state board to provide any reports resulting from completed state board reviews of the applicant educational institution to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters upon recommending the institution for degree-granting authority.
4. It amends the College of the Atlantic’s Private and Special Law to broaden the college’s degree-granting authority.