

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
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

LD 2099 An Act to Amend Certain Eligibility Requirements for Secondary Students Receiving State Subsidies for Postsecondary Courses

Public Law 2025, chapter 631 updates certain eligibility and academic requirements for secondary school students receiving a state subsidy for postsecondary courses. The law amends the statutory provision regarding the required recommendation for a student to receive a state subsidy for a postsecondary course to provide that a student must receive a recommendation from the student's school to take a postsecondary course at a public postsecondary institution. It also clarifies that the recommendation may come from a school official with knowledge of the student's academic performance.

Public Law 2025, chapter 631 also requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the public postsecondary institutions in the State, to provide a report regarding the effect of changes made by this legislation to eligibility requirements for a secondary school student to receive a state subsidy for postsecondary courses and regarding the imposition of lifetime credit caps on secondary school students and career and technical education students in a designated early college career pathway. By February 1, 2028, the department is required to submit a report, including any recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, which may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

LD 2109 An Act to Define “Public Education” and Clarify That a Private School Receiving Approval for Public Tuition Must Be Located in the State

Public Law 2025, chapter 632 provides that a private school receiving approval for public funds for tuition purposes must be located within the State. It also defines the term “public education” and corrects a reference to the term.

Public Law 2025, chapter 632 provides that a private school approved for tuition purposes pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5204, subsection 4 that is located outside of the State at which a student from the State is enrolled pursuant to Title 20-A, section 5204, subsection 4 as of the effective date of the legislation may continue to receive the tuition rate for that student calculated pursuant to Title 20-A, section 5806 until the student has completed secondary school, as long as the private school continues to meet all the requirements for approval.

LD 2111 An Act to Amend the Charter of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School District

Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 18 clarifies that the board of trustees and district school committee of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School District have distinct areas of responsibilities pursuant to the district charter and to statute. The law provides that the board of trustees and the district school committee must create joint bylaws in the event of issues related to overlapping responsibilities.

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Private and Special Law 2025, chapter 18 also directs the board of trustees to prepare the revenues and expenditures for the capital portion of the budget and the district school committee the operating portion. The district school committee is directed to integrate those portions and submit the budget to the budget meeting for the budget validation referendum procedure.

LD 2114 An Act An Act Regarding Public Preschool Programs Serving Children Who Are 3 Years of Age

Public Law 2025, chapter 633 expands the definition of “public preschool program” to include a program that provides instruction to children who are three years of age and provides that, in addition to allowing start-up funds for the operation of public preschools for children who are four years of age, the State, beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, may provide start-up funding for the allowable costs to operate public preschool programs for children who are both three years of age and identified as a child with a disability. The law specifies that public preschool students who are three years of age and have not been identified as a child with a disability are not subsidizable pupils for the purposes of state subsidy calculations under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B.

Under Public Law 2025, chapter 633, a child who is three years of age on October 15th and does not have an identified disability may still attend a public preschool program that offers instruction to children who are three years of age and have not been identified as a child with a disability. A person who is at least three years of age and is identified as a child with a disability may enroll in an available public preschool program at any time prior to enrolling in kindergarten.

LD 2172 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 33: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education

Resolve 2025, chapter 151 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 33: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education.

Resolve 2025, chapter 151 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 3, 2026.

LD 2175 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education

Resolve 2025, chapter 160 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education, notwithstanding that the filing period for written statements and arguments concerning the proposed rule closed nine days after the public hearing, only if the following changes to the rule are made.