

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1580

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H. P. 1255

House of Representatives, March 26, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Curtis of Orono.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT** Relating to Registration of Privately Owned  
Nursery Schools and Kindergartens.

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

R. S., T. 20, c. 320-A, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 320-A to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 320-A**

**PRIVATELY OWNED NURSERY SCHOOLS  
AND KINDERGARTENS**

§ 2665. Registration and permit

Any person, partnership, or institution or corporation operating or maintaining a private nursery school or private kindergarten, or other pre school facility and program may voluntarily register facility and program, until September 1, 1978, at which time registration shall become mandatory with the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services on forms prepared for this purpose by the commissioner. Programs which meet minimum standards as promulgated by the commissioner shall receive a permit. The commissioner shall appoint an advisory committee, representative of parents, nursery school administrators, teachers and the public to assist him in preparing the minimum standards.

STATEMENT OF FACT

At the present time, there is no provision for licensing nursery schools which are private. The purpose of this legislation is to provide for registra-

tion and licensing of privately-owned nursery schools. If enacted, the legislation would require the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services to write minimum standards for safe facilities and adequate programs to meet the needs of children.

The bill provides for voluntary registration of nursery schools until 1978, when registration would become mandatory. A grandfather clause would be included in the regulations.

This proposal has been considered by concerned parents, nursery school owners, administrators, teachers and the public in a series of meetings in various parts of the State. A task force committee and the public meetings have provided a draft of regulations which the commissioner would consider in implementing this law.

This bill does not require any appropriation.