

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 2194**

S. P. 685

In Senate, February 6, 1976

Reported by Senator Katz of Kennebec from Committee on Education pursuant to Joint Order S. P. 600 and printed under Joint Rules No. 3.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Filed under Joint Rule No. 3 pursuant to S. P. 600.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

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**AN ACT to Encourage the Development of Career Education Programs in  
Maine Public Schools.**

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

20 MRSA § 102, sub-§ 18 is enacted to read:

18. Career education. "Career education" shall mean the totality of experiences through which a person learns about and prepares to engage in work as part of that person's way of living.

It is the responsibility of each school administrative unit to develop career education and employment assistance programs for youth.

The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall provide materials and information to any school administrative unit in regard to career education and employment assistance programs for youth. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall encourage, and, upon request from any school administrative unit, provide technical assistance to any school administrative unit to develop career education and employment assistance programs for youth. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall devise career education and employment assistance programs for youth that will utilize present school personnel and other existing state resources including, but not limited to, the Maine Employment Security Commission, the regional vocational centers and the vocational-technical institutes.

The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall prepare an annual report to be presented to the Legislature according to the procedure

defined in Title 5, sections 43 to 46. The annual report shall include, but is not limited to, the following: The number and location of career education programs and employment assistance programs instituted in the school administrative units in the State, the number and location of newly developed programs, an evaluation of the programs to include the reasons for the successes and failures of such programs and a description of the assistance provided by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to develop career education programs throughout the State.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill is one recommendation of a study conducted by the Joint Standing Committee on Education in regard to juvenile problems. The intent of this bill is to encourage the development of career education programs for all students throughout the public schools in the State. High school students, to a great extent, are unprepared to enter the job market. Many high school students lack the skills and expertise to look for employment. In addition, many of the students lack knowledge about the careers that they can pursue and the skills necessary to pursue the various careers. This bill will help students make better selections in regard to employment and to prepare themselves for higher income positions.