# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

## Legislative Document

No. 665

H. P. 548 House of Representatives, March 1, 1977 Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and 1,800 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Najarian of Portland.
Cosponsor: Mr. Kerry of Old Orchard Beach.

#### STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Education of Exceptional Children Under 5 Years of Age.

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

20 MRSA § 859, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 746, § 12-B, is further amended by adding after the 5th paragraph a new paragraph to read:

In addition, any unit may provide a childhood education program in special education, as defined in section 3123, subsection 2, to exceptional children who are less than 5 years of age on October 15th of the school year. For the purposes of this paragraph "exceptional child" shall mean any child under 5 years of age on October 15th of the school year who requires any of the special services set forth in section 3123, subsection 1.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit any local administrative unit to offer special education programs to exceptional children from birth to 5 years of age.