

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 232

H. P. 182

House of Representatives, January 31, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Rolde of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Amend the Duties of the Commissioner of Education Relating to
Bilingual Education.**

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

20 MRSA § 102, sub-§ 16, 2nd ¶, first sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 26, is amended to read:

Subject to the annual approval of the commissioner, the school committee or the school directors of any administrative unit having children from non-English-speaking families may provide programs involving bilingual education techniques designed to provide children ~~at the elementary grades~~ with educational experiences to enhance their learning.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to amend the provisions for bilingual education to remove the restriction on the number of years children may receive bilingual education. Some children from homes and areas where little or no English is spoken may need more than just elementary level bilingual education to acquire sufficient proficiency in English to profit from the standard curriculum.