

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1145

H. P. 931

House of Representatives, March 12, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Lewis of Auburn.

Cosponsor: Mr. Rolde of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Require Vocational-technical Institutes to Provide Vocational
Education for Handicapped Students.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, education for exceptional children includes vocational education; and

Whereas, there is a need for a planned and coordinated policy and for a demonstration project in the area of vocational education for exceptional children; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Commissioner's duties. In order to encourage the development of vocational education for exceptional children, as defined in the Revised Statutes, Title 20, section 3123, subsection 1, the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall:

1. Coordination of services. Develop a plan for a coordinated approach to providing vocational education to exceptional children;

2. Cooperation. Assure that the department, through the Bureau of Vocational Education and the Division of Special Education, encourages the participation of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and representatives from business and community groups in the development of the plan;

3. Pilot project. Through a competitive grant process, select a site for the establishment of a pilot project which will demonstrate the effective delivery of vocational education to exceptional children;

4. Funding of project. Provide funds for the designated pilot project through existing funds available for vocational education for exceptional children;

5. Report. Present a report to the Second Regular Session of the 109th Legislature which includes the plan, a description of the progress on pilot project and any recommendations and legislation required to implement the plan; and

6. Staff. Carry out the purposes of this Act with existing staff.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to:

1. Require the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services to prepare and present a plan for providing vocational education to exceptional children; and

2. Direct the commissioner to establish a pilot project to demonstrate the delivery of vocational education to exceptional children.