

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 543

H. P. 491

House of Representatives, February 2, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Twitchell of Norway.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

**AN ACT to Permit Schools to Suspend a Student's Right to Ride a School Bus for Disciplinary Reasons.**

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

20 MRSA § 473, sub-§ 5-A is enacted to read:

**5-A. Suspension of student's right to ride school bus.** Suspend, or authorize the superintendent or principal to suspend, the right of any student to ride in a school bus when the student fails to conform to such reasonable rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the committee or directors. A superintendent or principal, who has been authorized to suspend any student's right to ride in a school bus, may give that authority to suspend to an operator of a school bus; provided that the principal or superintendent shall be informed of any suspension and any appeal by the parent or guardian of that student shall be to the principal or superintendent. Any suspension to continue beyond 20 school days must be specifically approved by the committee or directors. The suspension shall not begin until the next school day following the day notification of suspension is sent to the student's parents or legal guardian.

**If a student has been denied the right to ride a school bus for disciplinary reasons, the parent or guardian of that student has a right of appeal within 10 days of the suspension to the authority that suspended the student's right.**

**Until the appeal is heard, of if the suspension of the student's right to ride the**

**school bus is upheld, it shall be the parent's or guardian's responsibility to provide transportation to and from school for that student for the period of suspension;**

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit schools to suspend a student's right to ride a school bus for disciplinary reasons.