

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1259

S.P. 408

In Senate, April 14, 1987

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate  
Presented by Senator ANDREWS of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator THERIAULT of Aroostook,  
Representative HANDY of Lewiston, Representative LACROIX of  
Oakland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Assure Accessibility to Newly  
Constructed and Renovated Educational  
Facilities.

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

20-A MRSa §15903, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

5. Inspection and compliance. If it appears to the commissioner that the school construction project has not been completed in conformity with the approved plans and specifications or upon receipt by the commissioner of a petition from one or more residents of the school administrative unit claiming that the school construction project has not been completed in conformity with the approved plans and

1 specifications, the commissioner may shall cause an  
2 inspection of the project to be made. The commis-  
3 sioner shall notify the building committee of the  
4 findings of the investigation and of any changes re-  
5 quired. The building committee shall make the  
6 changes within a reasonable period of time. Failure  
7 to do so shall render the school administrative unit  
8 liable to the penalties provided in section 6801.

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 Presently, new school construction and renovation  
11 plans must be approved by the Bureau of Public Im-  
12 provements which requires compliance with American  
13 National Standards Institute accessibility standards,  
14 the construction or renovation must be certified by  
15 the school administrative unit to be in compliance  
16 with the plans and the commissioner may inspect and  
17 compel compliance on projects which do not conform to  
18 the plans. Nevertheless, it appears that some con-  
19 struction is occurring which is not in compliance  
20 with appropriate accessibility standards.

21 The purpose of this bill is:

22 1. To allow interested citizens to petition for  
23 a review of projects when noncompliance is suspected;  
24 and

25 2. To require the commissioner to conduct a re-  
26 view when he or she has been petitioned to do so or  
27 has reason to believe the project is not in compli-  
28 ance.

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