

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 993

S.P. 369

In Senate, March 30, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

Joy J. O'Brien

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ANDREWS of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative CROWLEY of Stockton Springs, Senator GILL of Cumberland and Representative O'GARA of Westbrook.

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, Directing Various Agencies of State Government to Assess their Policies
Regarding Learning Disabilities .



1 **Preamble.** Whereas, the 112th Legislature in 1985, reacting
2 to concerns that the State's thousands of learning disabled
3 children and adolescents were not being properly identified and
4 appropriately served by the educational system, created a joint
5 select committee to study the problem; and

7 Whereas, the Joint Select Committee for Learning Disabled
8 Children, consisting of a diverse group of members, after a year
9 and 6 months of study issued its final report to the 113th
10 Legislature in December 1986; and

11 Whereas, that report contained 33 recommendations directed
12 at the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the
13 University of Maine System, the State Board of Education, other
14 elements of State Government and local school units; and

15 Whereas, the joint select committee identified serious
16 areas of concern related to the training and certification of
17 teachers in the area of learning disabilities, identification and
18 evaluation of learning disabled children and adolescents and the
19 provision of services for learning disabled children and
20 adolescents; and

21 Whereas, no formal mechanism exists to monitor the
22 implementation of the joint select committee's recommendations;
23 now, therefore, be it

24 **Status of learning disabilities study. Resolved:** That the
25 Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the Board of
26 Trustees of the University of Maine System and the State Board of
27 Education are directed to conduct a comprehensive review of the
28 final report of the Joint Select Committee for Learning Disabled
29 Children and prepare a report to the Legislature on the
30 implementation of the report's recommendations; and be it further

31 **Department of Educational and Cultural Services review. Resolved:**
32 That the Department of Educational and Cultural Services is
33 responsible for reviewing the report's recommendations pertaining
34 to local school administrative units and reporting on the
35 implementation of those recommendations; and be it further

36 **University of Maine System review. Resolved:** That the Board of
37 Trustees of the University of Maine System is responsible for
38 reviewing the report's recommendations pertaining to private
39 post-secondary educational institutions and reporting on the
40 implementation of those recommendations; and be it further

41 **Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Educational and
42 Cultural Services, the University of Maine System and the State
43 Board of Education coordinate the results of their reviews and

1 present their consolidated report to the Joint Standing Committee
on Education by December 1, 1989; and be it further

3

5 **Joint Standing Committee on Education. Resolved:** That the
Joint Standing Committee on Education review the report and is
authorized to introduce appropriate legislation for consideration
7 by the Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature.

9

STATEMENT OF FACT

11 This resolve directs the Department of Educational and
Cultural Services, the University of Maine System and the State
13 Board of Education to conduct a comprehensive, consolidated
review of the 1986 final report of the Joint Select Committee for
15 Learning Disabled Children and to report to the Second Regular
Session of the 114th Legislature on the implementation of the
17 recommendations of the report.