

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 142

S.P. 79

In Senate, January 22, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BOST of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Senator ESTES of York, Representative HANDY of Lewiston and Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Revise Transition Services for Disabled Students.



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

20-A MRSA §7803-A is enacted to read:

§7803-A. Transition services

Each school administrative unit shall provide an annual statement of the transition services needed by a handicapped youth in transition, enrolled in that unit, before that youth leaves the school setting. When appropriate, an additional statement must be included stating the responsibilities and coordination required by the following agencies: the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Labor. If a participating agency fails to provide agreed upon services, the agencies shall identify alternative strategies to meet the transition objectives.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The federal Education for the Handicapped Act, as reauthorized by the United States Congress, has added new requirements regarding education planning for students with disabilities. Beginning in July 1991, each state must ensure that all students between the ages of 14 and 21 with disabilities have a transition plan that promotes movement from the school to the post-school setting. The new requirements also provide for interagency participation in the development of those plans. This bill recognizes these changes in the federal law.