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H.P. 723

House of Representatives, March 12, 1991

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EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative STEVENS of Bangor. Cosponsored by Representative ANTHONY of South Portland and Representative RICHARDS of Hampden.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Inform the Public About Drug-free School Zones.

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

17-A MRSA §1105-A is enacted to read:

<u>§1105-A. Drug-free school zones</u>

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1. Posting. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall post signs or otherwise provide notice within 1,000 feet of any real property comprising a public or private elementary or secondary school indicating that the area is a drug-free school zone.

12 2. Public service announcements. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall cause public service announcements to be made indicating that the areas within 1,000 feet of the real property comprising public or private elementary or secondary schools are drug-free school zones and that trafficking of drugs within a drug-free school zone is a serious crime, punishable by a 18 sentence of imprisonment that may not be suspended and fines that may be \$25,000 or more.

STATEMENT OF FACT

24 The purpose of this bill is to educate and inform the public about drug-free school zones. Pursuant to the Maine Revised 26 Statutes, Title 17-A, section 1105, subsection 1, paragraph E, trafficking in drugs within 1,000 feet of the property of a 28 school is made an even more serious offense than trafficking Under this bill, the Commissioner of Public Safety elsewhere. 30 would post the areas around schools as drug-free school zones and would cause public service announcements to be made to inform the 32 public of the existence of drug-free school zones and the grave consequences of dealing drugs in such areas.