

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1271

S.P. 386

In Senate, February 27, 1997

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**An Act Pertaining to Truancy.**

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Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs 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 FERGUSON of Oxford.  
Cosponsored by Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, HALL of Piscataquis, Representatives:  
DONNELLY of Presque Isle, FISHER of Brewer.

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

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Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §3272, sub-§§5 and 6 are enacted to read:

5. Liability. When a student is determined habitually truant under this section, the commissioner and school officials may not be held liable if that student is illiterate.

6. License suspension. Upon notification by the commissioner, the Secretary of State shall suspend a student's license or right to operate a motor vehicle for 6 months when that student is determined habitually truant under this section.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5051, sub-§2, ¶¶G and H are enacted to read:

G. When a student is determined habitually truant and in violation of section 5001-A, the department, school board and school officials may not be held liable if that student is illiterate.

H. When a student is determined habitually truant and in violation of section 5001-A, the school board shall notify the Secretary of State, who shall suspend the student's license or right to operate a motor vehicle for 6 months.

### SUMMARY

This bill provides that a student determined habitually truant may not hold the Department of Education, the Commissioner of Education or any school official liable if that student is illiterate. This bill also requires the Secretary of State, upon notification by the commissioner of a determination of habitual truancy, to suspend the student's license or right to operate a motor vehicle for 6 months.