

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 888

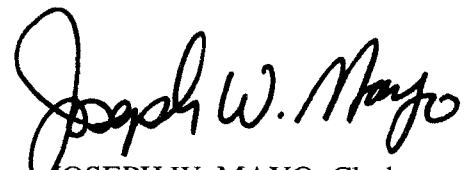
H.P. 638

House of Representatives, February 2, 1999

**An Act to Grant the State Board of Education Authority to Appoint the  
Commissioner of Education.**

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Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered  
printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PINKHAM of Lamoine. (By Request)

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

2  
4       **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §251, sub-§1**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1983, c. 123, is amended to read:

6       **1. Appointment.** ~~The commissioner shall be appointed by the~~  
8       ~~Governor~~ State Board of Education shall appoint the commissioner,  
10       subject to review by the joint standing committee of the  
Legislature having jurisdiction over education and to  
confirmation by the Legislature.

12       ~~A. The Governor shall include the chairman of the State~~  
14       ~~Board of Education in the selection process and shall ensure~~  
16       ~~that the state board has an opportunity to meet and~~  
18       ~~interview the candidate or candidates.~~

20       ~~B. Within 10 days of meeting with the candidate or~~  
22       ~~candidates, the state board shall deliver to the Governor~~  
24       ~~its written appraisal of the strengths and weaknesses of the~~  
candidate or candidates.

26       ~~C. The Governor shall consider the appraisal of the state~~  
28       ~~board prior to posting the nomination of a candidate.~~

30       **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §251, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693,  
32       §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

34       **2. Term.** The commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of  
36       the ~~Governor~~ State Board of Education.

### SUMMARY

34       Current law grants to the Governor the authority to appoint  
36       the Commissioner of Education. This bill amends the law to grant  
to the State Board of Education the authority to appoint the  
Commissioner of Education.