

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 932

H.P. 676

House of Representatives, February 2, 1999

An Act to Establish the Position of School Nurse Consultant.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker ROWE of Portland.
Cosponsored by President LAWRENCE of York and
Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, BELANGER of Caribou, FULLER of Manchester,
O'BRIEN of Augusta, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senator: PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

4 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 408-A is enacted to read:

6 CHAPTER 408-A

8 SCHOOL NURSE CONSULTANT

10 §1971. School nurse consultant position

12 1. Establishment. The position of school nurse consultant
14 is established jointly within the Department of Human Services
16 and the Department of Education. The Director of the Bureau of
18 Health in the Department of Human Services and the Director of
20 Special Projects and External Affairs in the Department of
22 Education shall jointly supervise the school nurse consultant.

24 2. Qualifications. The school nurse consultant must be
26 licensed as a registered professional nurse in the State and have
28 a master's degree in nursing or a related field and experience in
30 school health or community nursing.

32 §1972. Duties

34 The school nurse consultant shall provide statewide nursing
36 leadership, consultation and direction for coordinated school
38 health programs. The school nurse consultant shall:

40 1. Liaison. Serve as a liaison and resource expert in
42 school nursing and school health program areas for local,
44 regional, state and national school health provider and
46 policy-setting groups;

48 2. Information. Monitor, interpret, synthesize and
disseminate relevant information related to school health care
trends, school nursing practice, health-related policy changes,
legal issues in school nursing and school health program
implementation and professional development;

3. Staff development. Foster and promote staff development
for school nurses by planning and providing orientation,
educational offerings and networking with universities and other
providers of continuing education to meet identified needs; and

4. Standards. Gather and analyze data relevant to the
school health program and monitor standards to promote school
nursing excellence and optimal health of school children.

SUMMARY

2
4 This bill establishes the position of school nurse
6 consultant within the Department of Human Services and the
8 Department of Education. The school nurse consultant's duties
10 include acting as a liaison to school health provider and
policy-setting groups; providing health care, nursing, policy and
legal information regarding school nursing, school health
programs and professional development; promoting staff
development and promoting school nursing excellence and optimal
health of school children.