

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

---

Legislative Document

No. 1561

S.P. 528

In Senate, March 2, 1999

---

**An Act to Require High School Students to Earn a Certificate of Mastery  
Before Graduating.**

---

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 AMERO of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk and  
Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, BENNETT of Oxford, MacKINNON of York,  
MILLS of Somerset, Representative: CIANCHETTE of South Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6210** is enacted to read:

6 **§6210. Certificate of mastery**

8 **1. Certificate required for graduation.** Beginning in the  
10 2005-06 school year, all students in grade level 12 required to  
12 participate in the system of learning results established in  
14 section 6209 must earn a certificate of mastery of the academic  
16 standards included in the system of learning results in the areas  
of math; English; science and technology; social studies,  
including history, economics and civics; career preparation;  
visual and performing arts; health and physical education; and  
foreign languages. A certificate of mastery is required before a  
student may be granted a high school diploma.

18 **2. Statewide testing program.** The department in  
20 consultation with the state board shall establish and implement a  
22 statewide testing program to assess the mastery of academic  
24 standards of students in grade level 12. The testing program  
must be developed for use beginning in the 2005-06 school year.  
Under the program, students that earn a passing score, as  
established by the department, are granted a certificate of  
mastery.

26  
28 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill requires all students in grade level 12 to earn a  
32 certificate of mastery based on the State's learning results  
standards before graduating. The bill requires that testing of  
students begin in the 2005-06 school year.