

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1834

H.P. 1273

House of Representatives, March 11, 1999

An Act to Support Violence Prevention and Intervention Programs.

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 Representative SKOGLUND of St. George.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of York, BELANGER of Caribou, DESMOND of Mapleton, RICHARD of Madison, SAVAGE of Buxton, WATSON of Farmingdale,
Senators: BERUBE of Androscoggin, SMALL of Sagadahoc.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §253, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Violence prevention and intervention. The commissioner shall provide technical assistance to school administrative units that request assistance in the provision of violence prevention and intervention training programs for teachers, school staff and students. The assistance must emphasize conflict resolution education, peer mediation and early identification and response to signs of violence.

Sec. 2. Department of Education grant program providing technical assistance to schools for conflict resolution training and peer mediation programs. The Department of Education shall establish a grant program to initiate and continue support for conflict resolution and peer mediation programs in schools. The Department of Education shall establish procedures for applying for grants, criteria for awarding grants and a process for evaluating and replicating successful programs.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1999-00	2000-01
ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE		
Civil Rights Team Project		
All Other	\$50,000	\$50,000
Provides funds to increase in-school training of student peer role models and in-service training for school personnel in dealing with acts of harassment, intolerance and violence in schools.		
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TOTAL	\$50,000	\$50,000
EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF		
Learning Systems Team		

2	All Other	\$100,000	\$100,000
4	Provides funds for school		
6	conflict resolution education		
8	programs and a grant program		
10	to support conflict		
12	resolution and peer mediation		
14	programs in schools.		
16	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
18	TOTAL	<u>\$100,000</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>
20	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>

18 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill implements part of the recommendations of the
22 Commission to Study Providing Educators with More Authority to
24 Remove Violent Students from Educational Settings. The bill
26 directs and provides funding for the Department of Education to
28 provide technical assistance to schools in developing violence
30 prevention and intervention training for educators, staff and
students. The bill also establishes a grant program to be
administered by the Department of Education to support the
establishment of conflict resolution and peer mediation programs
in schools. Finally, the bill provides funding support for the
Attorney General's Civil Rights Team Project.