

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1946

H.P. 1346

House of Representatives, March 18, 1999

An Act to Provide for Safe and Orderly Schools.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative RICHARDSON of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Livermore, BRYANT of Dixfield, POVICH of Ellsworth, SAVAGE of Buxton, Senator: HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §255, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

6 6. Student behavior. The commissioner shall require that
8 school administrative units disclose violent or threatening
10 behavior by a student, either in school or outside the
12 institutional setting, to counseling personnel within the unit
and to any teacher to whose class the student has been assigned
for instruction or who provides education services to that
student. The information must be provided prior to the student's
placement in or return to the educational setting.

14 A. The juvenile justice system, local police departments
16 and mental health agencies shall disclose violent or
18 threatening behavior by the student to the superintendent or
the superintendent's designee.

20 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5105** is enacted to read:

22 **§5105. Alternative placement**

24 1. Continuum of interventions. If a student is chronically
26 disruptive, suspended or expelled, the superintendent shall
28 develop a continuum of interventions that provide a broad range
of programs and services including alternative educational
settings and alternative community placement.

30 2. Intervention and placement teams. If a student is
32 chronically disruptive, suspended or expelled, an intervention
34 and placement team must be convened to make decisions regarding
placement or intervention. The team must consist of, at a
minimum, the parent or guardian, the building level administrator
and any teacher to whose class the student is assigned.

36 **SUMMARY**

38 This bill seeks to provide for a safe and more orderly
40 environment for Maine's public school students by requiring that
42 school administrative units disclose violent or threatening
44 behavior by a student to counseling personnel within the unit and
classroom teachers and by requiring alternative educational
settings and community placement for students that are
chronically disruptive, suspended or expelled.