

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 621

H.P. 481

House of Representatives, February 8, 2001

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### **An Act to Protect a Child's Right to Bike and Walk to School.**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.  
Cosponsored by Senator SAWYER of Penobscot and  
Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, COTE of Lewiston, CUMMINGS of Portland,  
HUTTON of Bowdoinham, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, MICHAUD  
of Fort Kent, PERKINS of Penobscot.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6554** is enacted to read:

6 **§6554. Biking and walking to school**

8 A school board may not prohibit students from riding bicycles or walking to school.

10 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15908, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

12 **5. Bicycle and pedestrian access.** The state board may approve a school construction project only if it provides:

14 A. Bicycle and pedestrian access to the buildings proposed to be built, acquired, restored, replaced or expanded; and

16 B. Adequate, secure and convenient bicycle parking.

20 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill prohibits school boards from banning students from  
24 bicycling or walking to school. The bill also requires school  
26 construction projects to provide bicycle and pedestrian access to  
buildings, as well as adequate, secure and convenient bicycle  
parking.