

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1556

H.P. 1156

House of Representatives, March 13, 2001

An Act to Protect Children from Internet Pornography.

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

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative DUPREY of Hampden.
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot and
Representatives: ANDREWS of York, GLYNN of South Portland, LEDWIN of Holden,
O'BRIEN of Augusta, STEDMAN of Hartland, WATSON of Farmingdale, WESTON of
Montville, Senator: SAWYER of Penobscot.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4009-A** is enacted to read:

6 **§4009-A. Pornography restrictions**

8 An elementary or secondary school in the State may not allow
10 a person under 18 years of age to access obscene, pornographic or
12 other material that may be harmful to a person under 18 years of
14 age through the use of a computer or computer server of the
16 school.

18 **Sec. 2. 27 MRSA §39, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

20 **3. Pornography restrictions.** A school, state,
22 institutional or public library in the State may not allow a
24 person under 18 years of age to access obscene, pornographic or
26 other material that may be harmful to a person under 18 years of
28 age through the use of a computer or computer server of the
30 school, state, institutional or public library.

32 **Sec. 3. Rules.** The Department of Education and the Maine
34 State Library shall adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this
36 Act. The Department of Education and the Maine State Library
38 shall collaborate in adopting these rules in an effort to provide
uniformity to the rules. Rules adopted pursuant to this Act are
major substantive rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,
Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

SUMMARY

This bill forbids an elementary or secondary school or
school, state, institutional or public library from allowing a
person under 18 years of age from accessing obscene or
pornographic materials through the use of the school's or
library's computer. This bill directs the Department of
Education and the Maine State Library to collaborate in adopting
rules to implement this bill.