

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 987

S.P. 328

In Senate, February 25, 2003

An Act To Establish Consistent Requirements for High School Course Credits and Diploma Eligibility

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 MITCHELL of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative GAGNE-FRIEL of Buckfield and
Senator: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, Representatives: ANDREWS of York, CUMMINGS
of Portland, FINCH of Fairfield, FISCHER of Presque Isle, MURPHY of Kennebunk.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §5022, sub-§2, ¶¶C and D**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 610, §1, are amended to read:

6 C. Requests for transfer credit for equivalent instruction
8 completed at nonapproved private schools, at private schools
10 that elect not to meet requirements under section 2901 or
12 through other equivalent instruction programs must be
14 evaluated on the merits of the documentation provided. The
principal and guidance staff shall conduct these evaluations
on request by the student or the student's parent or
guardian. The principal may direct that the student undergo
a test or tests to assist in making a determination relative
to the awarding of credit under this paragraph.

16 D. Awarding of a high school diploma by the local school is
18 conditioned upon the student's demonstration of having
20 satisfied all course credit ~~or~~ and other requirements
22 established by the local school board. The local board of
directors may establish resident credit requirements as a
precondition for the awarding of a local school unit diploma.

24
26 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill makes the law regarding transfer of credit for
30 equivalent instruction at nonapproved private schools consistent
with earned credit for homeschool instruction by adding the
authority for a principal to require student testing before
transferring credit for equivalent instruction. The bill also
32 predicates award of a high school diploma on a student's
34 satisfying both course credit and other requirements set by a
local school board.