

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 989

S.P. 330

In Senate, February 25, 2003

An Act To Transfer Speech Pathologist Licensure Functions to the Department of Education

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development 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 ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative MAKAS of Lewiston and
Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, HATCH of Somerset, SAWYER of Penobscot,
Representative: CRAVEN of Lewiston.

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

4 **CONCEPT DRAFT**
6 **SUMMARY**

8 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

10 This bill proposes to transfer the licensure of individuals
12 who provide speech pathologist services to Maine schools from the
14 auspices of the Department of Professional and Financial
16 Regulation and the Board of Examiners on Speech-language
Pathology and Audiology under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title
32, chapter 77 to the Department of Education, thereby making
such individuals subject to the department's rule-making
authority.

18 It is the intent of this concept draft to expand the number
20 training programs in order to provide local school departments
with the needed personnel in this critical shortage area.

22 Additionally, the bill would provide that:

24 1. Out-of-state, degree-granting institutions may offer
26 programs to meet Maine's personnel needs in the area of speech
pathology; and

28 2. Certain speech pathology services may be delivered by
30 individuals who hold less than a master's degree in speech
pathology if those individuals are under the supervision of a
master's-level speech pathologist.