

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 1457

S.P. 499

In Senate, March 23, 2005

### Resolve, To Reform the Maine Education System

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRENNAN of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative NORTON of Bangor and  
Senators: BROMLEY of Cumberland, MITCHELL of Kennebec, SCHNEIDER of Penobscot,  
STRIMLING of Cumberland, Representatives: CAIN of Orono, CUMMINGS of Portland,  
DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.

2           **Sec. 1. Task force; review. Resolved:** That the Board of  
Education shall convene a task force to review the special  
4 education system and to develop a proposal that replaces it,  
beginning in 2010, with a new system that complies with  
6 requirements under federal law and under which every student  
receives an individual learning plan. The task force shall also  
8 review the need to provide special education services and ensure  
a free, appropriate public education to children under 9 years of  
age who are experiencing developmental delays. The department  
10 shall invite interested parties and stakeholders to serve as  
members of the task force; and be it further

12  
**Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than January 15,  
14 2006, the Board of Education shall submit its proposal, along  
with any necessary implementing legislation, for presentation to  
16 the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs  
and the Legislative Council. The department is authorized to  
18 introduce a bill related to its proposal to the Second Regular  
Session of the 122nd Legislature at the time of submission of its  
20 proposal.

22  
**SUMMARY**

24  
This resolve directs the Board of Education to convene a  
26 task force to review the special education system and to develop  
a proposal to phase it out and replace it with a new system under  
28 which every student, not just special education students,  
receives an individual learning plan and eligible children under  
30 9 years of age who are experiencing developmental delays are  
ensured a free appropriate public education. The department  
32 shall invite interested parties and stakeholders to serve as  
members of the task force.