

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 453

H.P. 352

House of Representatives, January 30, 2007

### **An Act To Enhance the Choices for Children and Parents from Areas without Public Secondary Schools**

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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 DUPREY of Hampden.  
Cosponsored by Senator SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: CRESSEY of Cornish, LANSLEY of Sabattus, ROBINSON of Raymond,  
THIBODEAU of Winterport, THOMAS of Ripley.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §2951, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is  
3 repealed.

4 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5204, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1985, c. 797, §32, is  
5 further amended to read:

6 **4. No secondary school.** Secondary students whose parents reside in a unit ~~which~~  
7 that neither maintains a secondary school nor contracts for secondary school privileges  
8 may attend a private school approved for tuition purposes, a public school in an adjoining  
9 unit ~~which~~ that accepts tuition students, or a school approved for tuition purposes in  
10 another state or country upon permission of officials of the receiving school. The school  
11 administrative unit where the students' parents reside shall pay tuition in the amount up to  
12 the legal tuition rate as defined in chapter 219, except that if the receiving school has  
13 instruction in religion, the tuition must be reduced pro rata based on the portion of the  
14 receiving school's curriculum that is religion instruction.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill allows sectarian schools to be eligible for the receipt of public funds for  
17 tuition purposes, with the tuition discounted pro rata for the portion of the sectarian  
18 school's curriculum that is religion instruction.