

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 985

H.P. 745

House of Representatives, March 2, 2007

### **An Act To Include Family Life Skills in the System of Learning Results**

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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 NASS of Acton.

Cosponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland and

Representatives: Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, EDGECOMB of Caribou, LANSLEY of Sabattus, RICHARDSON of Carmel, WOODBURY of Yarmouth, Senators: COURTNEY of York, MITCHELL of Kennebec, TURNER of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4721**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 454, §22, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **§4721. General requirement**

5 A secondary school shall provide a course of study of at least 2 years in length, which  
6 must meet the requirements of this chapter and the system of learning results established  
7 in section 6209. The course of study must include instruction of all students in English  
8 language arts, mathematics, science and technology, social studies, health and physical  
9 education, career preparation, visual and performing arts ~~and~~, foreign languages and  
10 family life skills.

11 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §6202-A, sub-§3, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 446, §4, is  
12 amended to read:

13 C. By the 2011-2012 school year, the awarding of learning results endorsements  
14 must be determined by student achievement of the standards of the system of learning  
15 results in each of the 8 9 content areas of the system of learning results based on the  
16 school administrative unit's assessment system.

17 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §6202-A, sub-§4, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 446, §4, is  
18 amended to read:

19 C. By the 2011-2012 school year, the awarding of learning results endorsements in  
20 addition to the high school diploma for publicly funded students in private schools  
21 must be determined by student achievement of the standards of the system of learning  
22 results in each of the 8 9 content areas of the system of learning results, in addition to  
23 other requirements as established by the trustees.

24 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §6209, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 662, Pt. A, §14, is  
25 further amended to read:

26 The department in consultation with the state board shall establish and implement a  
27 comprehensive, statewide system of learning results, referred to in this section as the  
28 "system," no later than the 2002-03 school year. The system, based broadly upon guiding  
29 principles set forth in this section, must establish high academic standards at all grade  
30 levels in the areas of math; English; science and technology; social studies, including  
31 history, economics and civics; career preparation; visual and performing arts; health and  
32 physical education; ~~and~~ foreign languages; and family life skills, including but not limited  
33 to financial skills such as budgeting and personal finance, health care choices and family  
34 dynamics. Only students in a public school or a private school approved for tuition that  
35 enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students, as determined by the previous school year's  
36 October and April average enrollment, are required to participate in the system of  
37 learning results. The commissioner shall develop accommodation provisions for  
38 instances where course content conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs and  
39 practices of a student's parent or guardian. The system must be adapted to accommodate  
40 children with disabilities as defined in section 7001, subsection 1-A.

