MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY

at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library

http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied (searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1565

H.P. 1090

House of Representatives, March 20, 2007

Resolve, To Expand Access to Early Childhood Education to All Children 4 Years of Age and Older

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

Millient M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative MAKAS of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRAUTIGAM of Falmouth, HARLOW of Portland, MILLER of Somerville,
NORTON of Bangor, SIMPSON of Auburn, WAGNER of Lewiston, WALCOTT of
Lewiston, WEBSTER of Freeport.

Sec. 1. Expansion of access to early childhood education. Resolved: That the Department of Education shall develop a pilot program to expand access to preschool education to children 4 years of age and older. The pilot program must provide up to 2 years of preschool education to prepare children for learning in the mainstream public school system through individualized attention with a focus on cognitive skills and social development and a de-emphasis on testing. The pilot program must be in place in time for the 2008-09 school year. The department shall fund the pilot program through existing revenue sources and may solicit donations; however, municipal revenue may not be used to fund the pilot program.

Beginning in 2008, the department shall report annually by January 15th to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters regarding the implementation of and participation in the pilot program.

13 SUMMARY

 This resolve requires the Department of Education to develop a pilot program to provide up to 2 years of preschool education to children 4 years of age and older. The objective of the pilot program is to prepare children for learning in the mainstream public school system through individualized attention with a focus on cognitive skills and social development and a de-emphasis on testing.