

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1694

S.P. 601

March 23, 2007

An Act To Establish the Town Academy Advisory Council

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs 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 HASTINGS of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Senator SMITH of Piscataquis, Representative MUSE of Fryeburg and
Senators: HOBBS of York, MITCHELL of Kennebec, TURNER of Cumberland, WESTON
of Waldo, Representatives: EDGECOMB of Caribou, FARRINGTON of Gorham, MAKAS of
Lewiston, STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§13-A** is enacted to read:

3 **13-A.**

4 <u>Education</u>	<u>Town Academy</u>	<u>Not Authorized</u>	<u>20-A MRSA</u>
5	<u>Advisory Council</u>		<u>§3061</u>

6 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA c. 117, sub-c. 5** is enacted to read:

7 **SUBCHAPTER 5**

8 **TOWN ACADEMY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

9 **§3061. Town Academy Advisory Council**

10 The Town Academy Advisory Council is established within the department to advise
11 the commissioner and the Legislature on matters related to development policies
12 concerning the education of public tuition students at town academies. Town academies
13 are private secondary schools serving primarily tuition students.

14 **1. Members.** The Town Academy Advisory Council, established under Title 5,
15 section 12004-I, subsection 13-A and referred to in this subchapter as "the council,"
16 consists of the following 7 members appointed by the Governor:

17 A. The commissioner or the commissioner's designee;

18 B. Three heads of town academies nominated by a statewide association representing
19 town academies;

20 C. A trustee of a town academy; and

21 D. Two representatives of a statewide association of public school superintendents,
22 nominated by that association, who have at least 2 years' experience working with a
23 town academy.

24 **2. Duties.** The council shall:

25 A. Provide advice regarding all rules and legislation proposed by the commissioner
26 that refer or relate to town academies;

27 B. Facilitate communication among town academies, the department and school
28 superintendents; and

29 C. Meet no less than twice each year to perform its duties.

30 **3. Quorum.** Four members of the council constitute a quorum.

1

SUMMARY

2 This bill establishes the Town Academy Advisory Council in the Department of
3 Education. Its members are unpaid gubernatorial appointees representing heads and
4 trustees of town academies and public school superintendents. The council is required to
5 advise the Commissioner of Education on the needs of the town academies and to
6 facilitate communication among the academies, the department and school
7 superintendents.