

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2008

Legislative Document

No. 1973

S.P. 767

December 18, 2007

**An Act To Improve the Compliance and Accountability of the Child
Development Services System**

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 18, 2007. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 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 BOWMAN of York.

Cosponsored by Representative CAIN of Orono and Representatives: HARLOW of Portland,
NORTON of Bangor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §7209, sub-§1, ¶E,** as enacted by PL 2005, c. 662, Pt. A,
3 §30, is amended to read:

4 E. The department, in consultation with regional sites, shall develop an action plan
5 with timelines to achieve compliance with federal or state law. The department may
6 assume temporary ~~responsibilities~~ responsibility for operations at a regional site that
7 fails to meet compliance requirements. The department shall report at least quarterly
8 to the state interagency coordinating council described in 20 United States Code,
9 Section 1441, to the state advisory panel described in 34 Code of Federal
10 Regulations, Sections 300.167 to 300.169 and to other advisory bodies that may be
11 appropriate about individual regional sites that are under an action plan and about
12 individual regional sites for whose operations the department has taken temporary
13 responsibility. These reports must describe any progress or slippage by individual
14 regional sites in meeting compliance requirements. For an individual regional site
15 under an action plan, the reports must describe how long the department expects the
16 regional site to remain under an action plan. For an individual regional site for whose
17 operation the department has taken temporary responsibility, the reports must
18 describe when the department expects to return responsibility to the regional site.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill requires the Department of Education to submit quarterly reports to advisory
21 groups about Child Development Services System regional sites that are under a
22 corrective action plan and about regional sites for whose operations the Department of
23 Education has assumed temporary responsibility, with the reports describing any progress
24 or slippage by individual regional sites in meeting compliance requirements. Under this
25 bill, the Maine Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities may
26 continue to serve as both the state interagency coordinating council and the state advisory
27 panel.