MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2008

Legislative Document

No. 2083

H.P. 1469

House of Representatives, December 27, 2007

Resolve, To Expand Access to Foreign Language Instruction in **Maine Schools**

(EMERGENCY)

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

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

> Millient M. Macfaland MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative TREAT of Hallowell.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRAUTIGAM of Falmouth, CROCKETT of Augusta, Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, JONES of Mount Vernon, MARLEY of Portland,

MAZUREK of Rockland, Senator: NUTTING of Androscoggin.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation must be enacted as an emergency measure in order to retain highly qualified foreign language teachers whose first language is not English in secondary schools; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Modern and classical language teachers. Resolved: That the Department of Education shall amend its rules concerning testing and certification for modern and classical language teachers to authorize provisional certification for an individual whose first language is the target language the individual teaches for as long as the individual is enrolled in a tutorial program to improve the individual's required basic skills in reading and writing and mathematics. Rules amended or adopted under this section are routine technical rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

20 SUMMARY

This bill allows teachers of modern and classical languages whose primary language is not English to retain certification while receiving support to pass the required Praxis test.