

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 403

H.P. 321

House of Representatives, February 8, 2011

**An Act To Require That School Administrative Units Establish a
Mission Statement for Each of the Public Schools Operated by the
School Administrative Unit**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative NELSON of Falmouth.
Cosponsored by Representatives: KNAPP of Gorham, LOVEJOY of Portland, RANKIN of
Hiram, RICHARDSON of Carmel.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§19** is enacted to read:

3 **19. Mission statement.** A school board shall adopt a mission statement for each
4 school under its jurisdiction. The school board shall solicit input from teachers,
5 administrators, parents, students and community members in the development and
6 adoption of a mission statement under this subsection.

7 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §4502, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2001, c. 454, §12, is
8 further amended to read:

9 **1. General requirements.** Elementary and secondary schools and school
10 administrative units, including an educational program or school located in or operated by
11 a juvenile correctional facility, shall meet all requirements of the system of learning
12 results as established in section 6209 as well as other requirements of this Title and other
13 statutory requirements applicable to the public schools and basic school approval
14 standards. Each school administrative unit shall prepare and implement a comprehensive
15 education plan that is aligned with the system of learning results, focused on the learning
16 of all students and oriented to continuous improvement. This plan must address all plans
17 required by the department, including a mission statement adopted by the school
18 administrative unit's school board pursuant to section 1001, subsection 19 for every
19 school of the school administrative unit.

20 **Sec. 3. Rules.** The Commissioner of Education may adopt rules to carry out the
21 purposes of this Act. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules
22 under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires a school board to adopt a mission statement for every school under
25 its jurisdiction. In developing and adopting a mission statement, a school board must
26 solicit input from teachers, administrators, parents, students and community members.
27 The mission statement must be included in the comprehensive education plan required
28 from all school administrative units, and is subject to review as part of the annual report
29 to the Commissioner of Education on the progress of implementing the plan.