

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 929

H.P. 689

House of Representatives, March 8, 2011

Resolve, To Establish a Study Group To Review the Teacher Certification Process

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 O'BRIEN of Lincolnville.
Cosponsored by Senator ALFOND of Cumberland and
Representatives: BOLDUC of Auburn, EDGECOMB of Caribou, HUNT of Buxton, NELSON
of Falmouth, RANKIN of Hiram, RICHARDSON of Carmel, WAGNER of Lewiston, Senator:
SHERMAN of Aroostook.

1 **Sec. 1. Commissioner of Education to create a study group on reviewing**
 2 **teacher certification. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Education shall establish
 3 a study group to review the complete teacher certification process and recommend ways
 4 to streamline and simplify the process and reduce the time needed for certification, with
 5 particular focus on certification for individuals without degrees in education, and to
 6 design a system that allows prior work experience and alternate education to satisfy all or
 7 a portion of core certification credit requirements. The commissioner or the
 8 commissioner's designee shall invite the participation of a representative of the University
 9 of Maine System with a background in education, a representative of private colleges
 10 with a background in education, a representative of the Maine Education Association, a
 11 representative from the Maine School Superintendents Association, a member of the State
 12 Board of Education, 2 currently active teachers and 2 currently active principals. The
 13 commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall serve as chair of the study group; and
 14 be it further

15 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 7, 2011, the
 16 Commissioner of Education shall report the results of the study under section 1 along
 17 with any recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and
 18 Cultural Affairs. The committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second
 19 Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a study group to
 22 review the teacher certification process and recommend ways to streamline and simplify
 23 the process and reduce the time needed to receive certification as a teacher with particular
 24 emphasis on certification for individuals without degrees in education. The
 25 commissioner is required to report the results of the study undertaken by the study group
 26 along with any recommended legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education
 27 and Cultural Affairs.