

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

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Legislative Document

No. 1269

S.P. 390

In Senate, March 23, 2011

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**An Act To Require That the Taking of a Statewide Assessment Test  
for High School Seniors Be Voluntary**

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

*Joseph G. Carleton Jr.*

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6202, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 313, §20, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 The commissioner shall establish a statewide assessment program to measure and  
5 evaluate on a continuing basis the academic achievements of students in grades 3 to 12 on  
6 the accountability standards set forth in section 6209 and in department rules  
7 implementing that section and other curricular requirements. The commissioner may  
8 elect to provide for the use of alternative measures of student achievement in grades 9 to  
9 12. This assessment applies to students in the public elementary and secondary schools  
10 and in all private schools approved for tuition whose school enrollments include at least  
11 60% publicly funded students, as determined by the previous school year's October and  
12 April average enrollment. The assessment program must be adapted to meet the needs of  
13 children with disabilities as defined in section 7001, subsection 1-A or other students as  
14 defined under rules by the commissioner. The assessment program and any alternative  
15 measure approved by the commissioner must be voluntary for students in grade 12.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill allows students in grade 12 to choose to not take an assessment test  
18 administered by their school, including the preliminary scholastic assessment test, or  
19 PSAT, or the scholastic assessment test, or SAT.