

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

---

Legislative Document

No. 1540

S.P. 585

In Senate, May 16, 2013

### **An Act To Fix and Improve the System Used To Evaluate or Rate Public Schools in Maine**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

---

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative MacDONALD of Boothbay and

Senators: BOYLE of Cumberland, JOHNSON of Lincoln, WOODBURY of Cumberland,  
Representatives: DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, KORNFIELD of  
Bangor, NELSON of Falmouth.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to provide that if the Department of Education or any other state  
6 agency uses a system to evaluate or rate public schools:

7 1. The department or other state agency shall give notice to the public that such a  
8 system will be used, shall give an opportunity for the public and interested parties to  
9 provide input regarding the development of the system and shall convene a task force on  
10 the development and implementation of the system that includes but is not limited to  
11 representatives of the following stakeholder groups:

12 A. Teachers;

13 B. School boards;

14 C. Superintendents;

15 D. Parents; and

16 E. Students;

17 2. The system must include:

18 A. Accurate measures of student progress over at least 5 years;

19 B. Rates of postsecondary school attendance and enlistment in the United States  
20 Armed Forces over at least 5 years;

21 C. A peer group comparison that takes into account, but is not limited to, utilization  
22 of special education services, the number of students eligible for free or reduced-price  
23 meals, local and county unemployment data and median household income;

24 D. School attendance rates;

25 E. Graduation rates; and

26 F. Interviews with parents of students, members of governing boards of school  
27 administrative units, teachers and other education leaders about the overall school  
28 environment; and

29 3. The system may not use a bell curve and a school may not be penalized because of  
30 the failure of students to take certain standardized tests.