

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 1047

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H.P. 716

House of Representatives, March 24, 2015

### An Act To Allow for Collaboration in Public Charter Schools

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

*Robert B. Hunt*  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative POULIOT of Augusta.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §2404, sub-§2, ¶J**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 414, §5, is  
3 amended to read:

4 J. A public charter school may enroll students from outside the State if space is  
5 available because the public charter school did not reach its full capacity under the  
6 public charter school's application under section 2407 or if the public charter school's  
7 proposed vision or plans according to the public charter school's application under  
8 section 2407 would be enhanced by the attendance of students from outside the State.

9 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §2412, sub-§4, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 414, §5, is  
10 amended to read:

11 C. A public charter school may not charge tuition and may only charge such fees as  
12 may be imposed by other noncharter public schools in the State. A public charter  
13 school may charge tuition to an out-of-state student admitted to the school on a  
14 space-available basis because the public charter school did not reach its full capacity  
15 under the public charter school's application under section 2407 or if the public  
16 charter school's proposed vision or plans according to the public charter school's  
17 application under section 2407 would be enhanced by the attendance of students from  
18 outside the State.

19 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §2412, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

20 **8. Association with a private school.** A public charter school may operate in  
21 association with a private school under chapter 117 or a comparable private school from  
22 outside the State if:

23 A. The operations of the public charter school comply with this chapter;

24 B. The public charter school complies with its charter contract under section 2408;  
25 and

26 C. The finances of the public charter school are accounted for separately from the  
27 finances of the private school.

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill clarifies that a public charter school may enroll students from outside the  
30 State and accept tuition for those students if there is space available because the public  
31 charter school did not reach its full capacity under the public charter school's application.  
32 This bill provides that a public charter school also may admit out-of-state students if the  
33 public charter school's proposed vision or plans according to the public charter school's  
34 application would be enhanced by the attendance of students from outside the State. This  
35 bill also allows a public charter school to operate in association with a private school if  
36 the public charter school complies with the provisions in law concerning public charter  
37 schools, the public charter school's operations comply with the public charter school's  
38 contract and the public charter school's finances are accounted for separately from the  
39 finances of the private school.