

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 468

H.P. 331

House of Representatives, February 9, 2017

An Act To Provide for a Later Starting Time for High Schools

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DAUGHTRY of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: BATES of Westbrook, GOLDEN of Lewiston, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor,
HYMANSON of York, PIERCE of Falmouth, POULIOT of Augusta, Senator: CHENETTE of
York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4801, sub-§2-B** is enacted to read:

3 **2-B. Start time.** A school administrative unit shall ensure that a secondary school in
4 the unit does not start a school day before 8:30 a.m. The school administrative unit shall
5 ensure that extracurricular activities do not start after 7:30 p.m. on an evening
6 immediately prior to a school day.

7 **Sec. 2. School administrative units shall provide plan to Department of**
8 **Education.** By September 1, 2018, each school administrative unit shall provide to the
9 Department of Education the unit's plan to comply with the provisions of the Maine
10 Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4801, subsection 2-B, including a proposed calendar
11 and schedule. A failure by a school administrative unit to provide a compliance plan
12 under this section by September 1, 2018 results in a reduction of 0.01% of the state share
13 of funding attributable to the cost of the components of essential programs and services
14 under Title 20-A, section 15671. If a school administrative unit fails to provide a
15 compliance plan under this section by March 1, 2019, the unit shall follow a calendar and
16 schedule provided by the Department of Education. A failure by a school administrative
17 unit to provide a compliance plan under this section by September 1, 2019 results in a
18 reduction of 15% of the state share of funding attributable to the cost of the components
19 of essential programs and services under Title 20-A, section 15671 for each year until the
20 unit provides a compliance plan.

21 **Sec. 3. Effective date.** That section of this Act that enacts the Maine Revised
22 Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4801, subsection 2-B takes effect September 1, 2019.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires that, by September 1, 2019, each school administrative unit ensure
25 that its secondary schools' school days start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. and that
26 extracurricular activities do not start after 7:30 p.m. on an evening immediately prior to a
27 school day. A school administrative unit is required to provide a compliance plan. Units
28 that do not provide a compliance plan face reductions in the state share of funding
29 attributable to the cost of the components of essential programs and services.