

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 528

H.P. 372

House of Representatives, February 9, 2017

An Act To Create a Maine Race, Ethnicity and Cultural Studies Educational Component

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and
Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, GATTINE of Westbrook, GOLDEN of
Lewiston, KORNFIELD of Bangor, PIERCE of Falmouth, RECKITT of South Portland,
STEWART of Presque Isle, TUELL of East Machias, WARREN of Hallowell.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4706, sub-§2**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 510,
3 Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

4 **2. Maine studies.** Maine history, including the Constitution of Maine, Maine
5 geography and environment and the natural, industrial and economic resources of Maine
6 and Maine's cultural and ethnic heritage, must be taught. A required component of
7 Maine studies is Maine Native American studies, which must be included in the review of
8 content standards and performance indicators of the learning results conducted in
9 accordance with section 6209, subsection 4. The Maine Native American studies must
10 address the following topics:

11 A. Maine tribal governments and political systems and their relationship with local,
12 state, national and international governments;

13 B. Maine Native American cultural systems and the experience of Maine tribal
14 people throughout history;

15 C. Maine Native American territories; and

16 D. Maine Native American economic systems.

17 A component of Maine studies is the broad study of race, ethnicity and culture in Maine,
18 which may be included in the review of content standards and performance indicators of
19 the learning results conducted in accordance with section 6209, subsection 4.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill allows the study of race, ethnicity and culture in Maine to be taught in the
22 State's elementary and secondary schools as a component of Maine studies.