

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 930

H.P. 685

House of Representatives, February 21, 2019

An Act To Give Maine Schools Additional Options To Make Up Missed School Days

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 PIERCE of Falmouth.
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and
Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, JORGENSEN of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4801, sub-§1, ¶F,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 60, §1, is
3 repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 F. In order for a school administrative unit to make up school days missed due to
5 weather or emergency closures, a school administrative unit may:

6 (1) Reschedule or shorten scheduled vacation periods;

7 (2) Postpone the regular end of the school year;

8 (3) Conduct classes during the weekend;

9 (4) Operating under a plan approved by the commissioner, provide for a one-
10 hour extension of the school day for up to 25 days in a school year.
11 Notwithstanding the required number of school days under this subsection, 5 one-
12 hour extensions may be counted as one additional school day. A school
13 administrative unit may, with the approval of the commissioner pursuant to rules
14 adopted in accordance with this subsection, implement extended days pursuant to
15 this subparagraph; and

16 (5) Provide students with packets of homework the completion of which counts
17 as completion of a regular school day.

18 A school administrative unit may develop ways to make up school days not included
19 in this paragraph as long as they are incorporated into a plan approved by the
20 commissioner.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill includes in the statutes Department of Education rules governing how school
23 administrative units may make up school days missed due to weather or emergency
24 closures, including rescheduling or shortening scheduled vacation periods, postponing the
25 scheduled closing date of school and conducting classes during the weekend. It also
26 allows school administrative units to make up school days by providing students with
27 packets of homework the completion of which counts as completion of a regular day of
28 school and to develop ways to make up school days not included in law as long as they
29 are incorporated into a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education.