

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 1858

H.P. 1329

House of Representatives, December 23, 2019

An Act To Protect Teachers from Professional Teacher Certificate Endorsement Changes

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 19, 2019. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative McCREA of Fort Fairfield.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, DODGE of Belfast, FARNSWORTH of Portland,
INGWERSEN of Arundel, KORNFIELD of Bangor, SAMPSON of Alfred.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13006-A, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 235, §5 and
3 affected by §41, is amended to read:

4 **3. Application of rules revising credential qualifications or endorsements.** An
5 amendment to the rules adopted to implement this chapter or chapter 502 that revises the
6 qualifications for a credential or the grades or subject area endorsements for a
7 professional teacher certificate does not apply to a person who was issued a credential or
8 endorsement prior to or during the school year preceding the adoption of revisions to the
9 rules.

10 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13013, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 235, §12 and
11 affected by §41, is further amended to read:

12 **3. Endorsements.** A professional teacher certificate must be issued with an
13 endorsement that specifies the grades and subject area that the teacher is ~~deemed~~
14 determined qualified to teach. A holder of a professional teacher certificate may not teach
15 outside the certificate holder's area of endorsement unless the certificate holder has
16 received a waiver from the commissioner in accordance with state board rules.

17 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §13013, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 235, §12 and
18 affected by §41, is amended to read:

19 **5. Renewal.** A professional teacher certificate may be renewed for 5-year periods in
20 accordance with state board rules, which must require, at a minimum, that the teacher,
21 whether employed or unemployed, complete at least 6 semester hours of professional or
22 academic study or in-service training designed to improve the performance of the teacher
23 in the field. If the teacher has attained certification from the National Board for
24 Professional Teaching Standards, the renewal period is for 10 years. If a rule adopted
25 pursuant to section 13006-A amends the endorsement specifications for grades or subject
26 areas for a teacher's professional teacher certificate, the teacher may renew the teacher's
27 professional teacher certificate with the same grades and subject areas endorsements as
28 were issued with the professional teacher certificate originally issued to that teacher.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill provides that a rule adopted that amends specifications for grades or subject
31 areas endorsements for a professional teacher certificate does not apply to the
32 endorsements on a professional teacher certificate held by a person if the endorsements
33 were issued prior to or during the school year preceding the adoption of the rules and that
34 a teacher may renew the teacher's professional teacher certificate with the same grades
35 and subject areas endorsements as were originally issued to that teacher.