

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 742

H.P. 547

House of Representatives, March 5, 2021

**Resolve, To Track Youth Mental Health during the COVID-19
Public Health Emergency by Ensuring the Maine Integrated Youth
Health Survey Is Conducted during the 2020-2021 School Year**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTION of Augusta.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth,
Senator: WOODSOME of York.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey, a statewide survey administered
4 by the Department of Education in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human
5 Services, is conducted in February of odd-numbered years and quantifies the health-related
6 behaviors and attitudes of 5th graders through 12 graders; and

7 **Whereas,** the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed the school learning
8 environment for students; and

9 **Whereas,** while it may currently be more difficult to conduct the survey, it is vitally
10 important that the survey continue and be administered more frequently in order to track
11 youth mental health as students respond to changing conditions; and

12 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
13 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
14 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
15 therefore, be it

16 **Sec. 1. Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey conducted. Resolved:** That
17 the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education shall
18 ensure that the survey referred to as the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey is conducted
19 during the 2020-2021 school year in addition to the planned survey in the 2021-2022 school
20 year in order to track youth mental health during the public health emergency caused by
21 coronavirus disease, or COVID-19.

22 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
23 takes effect when approved.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department
26 of Education to ensure that the survey referred to as the Maine Integrated Youth Health
27 Survey is conducted during the 2020-2021 school year in addition to the planned survey in
28 the 2021-2022 school year in order to track youth mental health during the COVID-19
29 public health emergency.