# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

### FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1082

H.P. 797

House of Representatives, March 11, 2021

An Act To Improve Educational Opportunities by Exempting Children Who Attend Virtual Public Charter Schools from Immunization Requirements and Expanding Enrollment at Virtual Public Charter Schools

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

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative SAMPSON of Alfred. Cosponsored by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec and Representative: DRINKWATER of Milford.

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

- **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §2404, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 253, §1, is amended to read:
- **4. Maximum virtual public charter school enrollment.** The total enrollment at all  $\underline{a}$  virtual public charter schools school authorized by the commission may not exceed  $\frac{1,000}{1,500}$  students.
- **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §2408, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2019, c. 253, §2, is further amended by amending the 3rd blocked paragraph to read:

A virtual public charter school authorized by the commission may not expand to serve a grade level not included in levels 5 and 6 beyond the school's initial charter contract or, for a school whose charter was renewed prior to November 1, 2019, the renewed charter contract.

#### Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §6355, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

**5. Virtual public charter school.** The child is enrolled in or attends a virtual public charter school, as defined in section 2401, subsection 11. The Maine Charter School Commission established under Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 10-D may adopt safety protocols for physical attendance by the child at any class or school program.

18 SUMMARY

This bill increases the total enrollment at virtual public charter schools authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission from 1,000 at all virtual public charter schools to 1,500 at a virtual public charter school. It allows a virtual public charter school to expand to serve grade levels beyond the grade levels under the school's initial or renewed charter contract to include grade levels 5 and 6. It exempts children who are enrolled in or attend a virtual public charter school from immunization requirements. It also allows the Maine Charter School Commission to adopt safety protocols for physical attendance by such children at any class or school program.