

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1366

H.P. 880

House of Representatives, March 28, 2023

**An Act to Address Educational Technician Shortages in Public
Schools by Establishing an Alternative Certification Pathway**

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 BRENNAN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York and
Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, FAY of Raymond,
MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MURPHY of Scarborough, SALISBURY of Westbrook,
SARGENT of York, Senator: PIERCE of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13019-H, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

3 **5. Approved educational technician III training programs; certification.** The
4 commissioner may approve training programs for educational technician III certification,
5 as defined by rule, offered by an accredited postsecondary institution in this State.
6 Programs approved under this subsection may include, but are not limited to, learning
7 facilitator programs offered through the Maine Community College System. An applicant
8 who successfully completes a training program approved under this subsection may receive
9 an educational technician III certificate if the applicant meets all other certification
10 requirements established by department rule, except that the applicant is not required to
11 meet the minimum 90 credits of approved study in an educationally related field.

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This bill creates an alternative pathway to an educational technician III certification
14 that does not require the minimum 90 credits of approved study in an educationally related
15 field as required by Department of Education rule Chapter 115: The Credentialing of
16 Education Personnel. The bill provides that the Commissioner of Education may approve
17 training programs for certification as an educational technician III offered by accredited
18 postsecondary institutions in this State, including but not limited to learning facilitator
19 programs offered through the Maine Community College System. An applicant who
20 successfully completes an approved program and meets all certification requirements other
21 than the minimum 90 credits of approved study in an educationally related field may be
22 certified as an educational technician III.