

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2034

H.P. 1364

House of Representatives, December 5, 2025

An Act to Support Funding for Educational Programs and Opportunities

Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 3, 2025. 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 black ink, reading "Rlt B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §253, as amended by PL 2017, c. 466, §1, is further amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§253. Commissioner's duties and powers

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §253, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

The duties and powers of the commissioner ~~shall be~~ are as follows.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §253, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Support funding for educational programs and opportunities. The commissioner may raise and expend private funds to support specific educational programs and opportunities.

Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §253, sub-§11 is enacted to read:

11. Promote public awareness. The commissioner may expend appropriated funds for the purchase, production and distribution of promotional materials, including, but not limited to, educational materials, branded merchandise and outreach materials, as part of the department's efforts to support and promote public awareness and engagement related to the department's programs, services and initiatives.

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education to raise and expend private funds for specific education programs and opportunities and spend appropriated funds on promotional materials.