

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

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Legislative Document

No. 2147

S.P. 865

In Senate, January 7, 2026

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**An Act to Provide Funding to Improve the College and Career Readiness of Certain Students in Androscoggin and Oxford Counties**

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DAREK M. GRANT".

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DUSON of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative MURPHY of Scarborough and  
Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, BICKFORD of Androscoggin, Representative: HEPLER of  
Woolwich.

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

2        **Sec. 1. University of Maine System funding for academic support and**  
3        **college and career preparation; use of funds.** The University of Maine System shall  
4        administer the funds appropriated in section 3. The funds must be used solely to provide  
5        academic support and college and career preparation services to students at Buckfield  
6        Junior-Senior High School, Dirigo High School, Edward Little High School, Mountain  
7        Valley High School, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School and Telstar High School in  
8        Androscoggin and Oxford counties who meet the eligibility qualifications of the United  
9        States Department of Education's Upward Bound program. Services may include, but are  
10       not limited to, academic advising, tutoring in mathematics and English language arts, peer  
11       mentoring, support in applying for higher education and accessing financial aid, career  
12       exploration and planning and on-campus summer residential experiences.

13       **Sec. 2. Report.** That, by December 1, 2027, the University of Maine System shall  
14       submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
15       education matters that includes an overview of the services provided pursuant to section 1.  
16       The report must include student outcomes such as high school grade point average,  
17       retention, graduation and postsecondary enrollment. The joint standing committee may  
18       report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd  
19       Legislature.

20       **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
21       allocations are made.

22       **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

23       **Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031**

24       Initiative: Provides a one-time appropriation to the University of Maine System to provide  
25       academic support and college and career preparation services to eligible students in 6 high  
26       schools in Androscoggin and Oxford counties previously served by the University of Maine  
27       at Farmington's River Valley Upward Bound program.

| 28 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>       | 2025-26 | 2026-27   |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| 29             All Other     | \$0     | \$309,505 |
| 31 <b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b> | <hr/>   | \$0       |

32       **SUMMARY**

33       This bill provides one-time funds for the University of Maine System to provide  
34       academic support and college and career preparation services to eligible students in 6 high  
35       schools in Androscoggin and Oxford counties that previously participated in the University  
36       of Maine at Farmington's River Valley Upward Bound program. The bill requires the  
37       University of Maine System to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the  
38       Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters by December 1, 2027 detailing the  
39       use of the funding and outcomes for participating students. The joint standing committee  
40       may report out legislation related to the report.