

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 914**

H.P. 1339

House of Representatives, February 23, 1951

Referred to the Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Lacharite of Brunswick.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-ONE

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**AN ACT Relating to Subjects to be Taught in Public Schools.**

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

**R. S., c. 37, § 3, sub-§ VII, amended.** Subsection VII of section 3 of chapter 37 of the revised statutes, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**‘VII.** To prescribe the studies to be taught in the public schools and in private schools approved for attendance and tuition purposes, reserving to superintending school committees, trustees or other officers in charge of such public or private schools the right to prescribe additional studies, and the course of study prescribed by the commissioner shall be followed in all public schools and in all private schools approved by the said commissioner for attendance or tuition purposes; provided, however, that upon the approval by the said commissioner of any course arranged by the superintending school committee of any town, or by the trustees or other officers of any private school, said course shall be the authorized course for said town or private school; provided further, that the basic language of instruction in all schools, public and private, shall be the English language; and provided further, that American history and civil

government, including the constitution of the United States **and the declaration of independence**, the importance of voting and the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship, shall be taught in all schools of elementary and secondary grades, both public and private, and that American history and civil government shall be required for graduation from all elementary schools, both public and private. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the teaching in elementary schools of any language as such ;'