

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS, RESOLVES AND CONSTITUTIONAL RESOLUTIONS

AS PASSED BY THE

One Hundred and Sixth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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PUBLIC LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE  
AS PASSED BY THE  
**One Hundred and Fifth Legislature**  
AT THE  
SPECIAL SESSION

January 24, 1972

to

March 10, 1972

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## CHAPTER 610

## AN ACT Implementing the Reorganization of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 1, repealed and replaced. Section 1 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

## § 1. Department

The Department of Educational and Cultural Services, as heretofore established and hereinafter in this Title called the "department," shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are set forth in this Title.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 1-A, amended. Section 1-A of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 492 of the public laws of 1971, is amended to read as follows:

## § 1-A. Department, commissioner

There is created and established the Department of ~~Education~~ Educational and Cultural ~~Resources~~ Services to supervise, guide and plan for a coordinated system of public education for all citizens of the State and interrelate public education to other social, economic, physical and governmental activities, programs and services ~~and also to~~. The department shall also provide for a coordinated, integrated system of cultural resources programs and projects ~~and to~~, encourage and stimulate public interest in the advancement of education and support ~~and participation in~~ the cultural and historical heritage, institutions and activities of Maine at both the state and local level. The department shall ~~to~~ consist of a Commissioner of ~~Education~~ Educational and Cultural ~~Resources~~ Services appointed by the Governor from a list of 3 names to be provided by the State Board of Education as established, with the advice and consent of the Council to serve ~~at the pleasure of the Governor and Council~~ and a term coterminous with the Governor subject to removal for cause. The State Board of Education shall submit its list to the Governor within 20 days after the Governor takes the oath of office. If it fails to do so, the Governor may appoint the commissioner with the advice and consent of the Council. The department shall include the following as heretofore or hereafter created and established: The Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the Maine Education Council, the Maine Commission for the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1965, the Maine Advisory Council on Vocational Education, the Maine Representatives to the New England Board of Higher Education, the Maine School Building Authority, the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, the Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities, the State Museum, the Maine State Museum Commission, the State Historian and the Maine State Library.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, § 1-B, additional. Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 1-B to read as follows:

## § 1-B. Department, organization

The Department of Educational and Cultural Services shall be composed of the following bureaus:

1. State Museum Bureau. The State Museum Bureau shall be under the direction of a director who shall be qualified by training or by experience in museum work and shall be appointed by the Maine State Museum Commission with the approval of the commissioner to serve for an indefinite term, subject to removal for cause. The compensation of the director shall be fixed by the Governor and Council; and

2. Arts and Humanities Bureau. The Arts and Humanities Bureau which shall be under the direction of a director who shall be qualified by training or by experience and shall be appointed by the Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities with the approval of the commissioner to serve for an indefinite term, subject to removal for cause. The compensation of the director shall be fixed by the Governor and Council; and

3. Maine State Library Bureau. The Maine State Library Bureau, which shall be known as the Maine State Library and which shall be under the direction of a director who shall be qualified by training or by experience in library work and who shall be known as the State Librarian, appointed by the commissioner with the advice and consent of the Governor and Council to serve for an indefinite term, subject to removal for cause. The compensation of the director shall be fixed by the Governor and Council; and

4. Bureau of Vocational Education. The Bureau of Vocational Education which shall be under the direction of a director appointed by the commissioner, subject to the Personnel Law; and

5. Other. Such other bureaus as the commissioner deems necessary to fulfill the duties of the department, each of which shall be under the direction of a person appointed by the commissioner, subject to the Personnel Law, to serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 20, § 51, repealed and replaced. Section 51 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

#### § 51. State Board of Education

1. Board. There is created a State Board of Education which shall consist of 9 members who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council. The membership of the board shall be broadly representative of the public. No person who earns a substantial portion of his income as a teacher or as an administrator in an educational institution, other than as a college president, shall be eligible for appointment or service under this section.

2. —term. The term of office of each member shall be 5 years, provided that of the members first appointed,  $\frac{1}{3}$  shall be appointed for terms of one year,  $\frac{1}{3}$  for terms of 2 years and  $\frac{1}{3}$  for terms of 5 years. Any vacancy created shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term.

3. —powers. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Board of Education shall have only the powers specifically stated in this subsection:

A. It shall act in an advisory capacity to the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services concerning matters contained in this Title;

B. It shall be the responsibility of the State Board of Education to exercise the following specific powers and to perform the following duties in accordance with the statutes: Make recommendations to the Legislature for the efficient conduct of the public schools of the State; approve the formation of School Administrative Districts; establish, maintain and operate state technical and vocational institutes and schools of practical nursing; act upon applications for additions to and dissolution of School Administrative Districts; establish requirements for approval and accreditation of elementary and secondary schools; adjust subsidy to an administrative unit when the expenditures for education in such unit show evidence of manipulation to gain an unfair advantage or are adjudged excessive; grant permission for administrative units to enter into agreements for cooperative educational purposes; act upon articles of agreement for creation of an Interstate School District; develop and adopt a plan for the establishment of regional technical and vocational centers; approve standards for school construction; approve projects for state construction aid; approve the formation of community school districts; approve isolated secondary schools; obtain information regarding applications for granting degrees and make a recommendation to the Legislature; recommend funds to the Bureau of the Budget for equalization of educational opportunity; establish a student loan insurance program; serve as state agency for administering federal funds and serve as an appeals board for unclassified personnel;

C. It shall review on the written request of any interested party decisions made by the department acting through the commissioner or his duly authorized representative pursuant to the following sections: 222, 916, 1281, 1901, 2356-B, 3457 and 3458. The written request shall be filed within 30 days from the date of the department's decision.

D. It shall have the authority granted to it pursuant to section 3672.

Sec. 5. R. S., T. 20, § 56, repealed. Section 56 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is repealed.

Sec. 6. R. S., T. 20, § 101, repealed. Section 101 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 507 of the public laws of 1965 and by section 17 of chapter 476 of the public laws of 1967, is repealed.

Sec. 7. R. S., T. 20, § 102, amended. The first paragraph of section 102 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

The commissioner or his duly authorized designee, except as otherwise provided, shall exercise the powers and perform the duties granted to the department in this Title. The commissioner is authorized to hire whatever personnel he deems necessary, subject to the Personnel Law, to fulfill the duties of the department. He shall also have the following duties:

1. Budget. Coordinate, consolidate and prepare a budget for the department;
2. Personnel. Transfer personnel within the department to insure the efficient utilization of the department personnel;
3. Purchases. Coordinate the purchase and use of all department equipment; and

4. Review. Review the function and operation of the department to insure that overlapping functions and operations are eliminated.

The commissioner does not have authority to exercise or to interfere with the exercise of any discretionary authority granted to the Maine Museum Commission and the Maine Arts and Humanities Commission.

Sec. 7-A. R. S., T. 20, § 154, amended. The last 4 sentences of section 154 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, are repealed.

Sec. 8. R. S., T. 20, § 1901, amended. The 4th paragraph of section 1901 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by chapter 462 of the public laws of 1967, is amended to read as follows:

After providing an opportunity for a hearing, ~~the state board, on recommendation of the commissioner~~ the department may adjust the state subsidy to an administrative unit when ~~in the opinion of the board~~ the expenditures for education in such unit show evidence of manipulation to gain an unfair advantage or are adjudged excessive. Any interested party aggrieved by a decision of the department may appeal to the State Board of Education pursuant to section 51.

Sec. 9. R. S., T. 20, c. 302, repealed. Chapter 302 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 443 of the public laws of 1965, and as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 10. R. S., T. 20, § 2452, amended. The first paragraph of section 2452 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

The commissioner ~~with the approval of the state board~~ shall employ necessary personnel, subject to the terms of the Personnel Law, and establish rules and regulations to carry out this chapter, including the following:

Sec. 11. R. S., T. 20, § 3504, amended. The 2nd sentence of section 3504 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 483 of the public laws of 1969, is further amended to read as follows:

The Maine School Building Authority shall consist of 8 members, including the Governor, the Commissioner of ~~Education~~ Educational and Cultural Services, one member of the committee on education to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and one member of the State Board of Education to be appointed by the Governor, to serve during their incumbency in said offices, except for the member of the committee on education, who shall serve until his successor is appointed and qualified, and 4 members at large appointed by the Governor for a period of 5 years, and said authority shall constitute a body corporate and politic.

Sec. 12. R. S., T. 20, § 3672, amended. Section 3672 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 13 of chapter 540 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended to read as follows:

§ 3672. State Board of Education as state agency

The ~~board~~ State Board of Education is designated as the sole agency for administering the funds allotted under any Federal Act providing for finan-

cial assistance in the **operation and construction of school facilities, including higher educational facilities**, and it is authorized to make such certifications to the United State's Commissioner of Education as are necessary to entitle the State to receive the benefits of such Act, including the authority to elect that any portion of such a federal allotment be in the form of a commitment by the Federal Government to make direct payments of interest and principal on debts of local agencies for the construction of school facilities or other purpose.

**Sec. 13. R. S., T. 27, § 1, amended.** The 2nd sentence of the first paragraph of section 1 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the 2nd paragraph is amended to read as follows:

The librarian may employ, subject to the Personnel Law **and the approval of the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services**, a deputy state librarian, and such assistants as the business of the office may require.

**Sec. 14. R. S., T. 27, § 5, amended.** Section 5 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

#### § 5. Biennial report

The State Librarian shall report to the ~~Legislature biennially~~ **Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services annually** the receipts and expenditures on account of the library, the number of acquisitions during the ~~preceding years~~ **preceding year**, specifying those obtained by purchase, donation and exchange and shall make in such report suggestions in relation to the improvement of the library.

**Sec. 15. R. S., T. 27, § 84, repealed.** Section 84 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 502 of the public laws of 1965, is repealed.

**Sec. 16. R. S., T. 27, § 85, sub-§ 2, amended.** The 3rd sentence of subsection 2 of section 85 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 502 of the public laws of 1965, is amended to read as follows:

He shall employ, subject to the Personnel Law **and the approval of the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services**, such assistants as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

**Sec. 17. R. S., T. 27, § 403, repealed.** Section 403 of Title 27 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 499 of the public laws of 1965, is repealed.

**Sec. 18. R. S., T. 20, § 102, sub-§ 11, amended.** Subsection 11 of section 102 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

**11. Reports.** ~~Biennially~~ **Annually**, to report to the ~~board~~ **Governor** the result of his inquiries and investigations and the facts obtained from the school returns, with such suggestions and recommendations as in his judgment will best promote the improvement of public schools;



**Sec. 19. R. S., T. 34, § 41, amended.** The first sentence of section 41 of Title 34 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 313 of the public laws of 1971, is further amended to read as follows:

A board of 5 visitors, as heretofore established, at least 2 of whom shall be members of the minority party, shall be appointed by the Governor, in connection with each state institution under the department and the Governor **Baxter School for the Deaf within the Department of Educational and Cultural Services.**

**Sec. 20. Deductions.** There is appropriated to be deducted from funds made available under the private and special laws of 1971, chapter 91, Section A, as passed by the 105th Legislature in regular session, the following amounts:

	1972-73
EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF	
Administration	
Personal Services	(3) (\$28,799)
Superintendents of Towns Comprising Unions	
Personal Services	( 600)
All Other	( 28,400)
Vocational Education—Administration	
Personal Services	(1)* ( 6,762)

\* Position reduction effective September 1, 1972

**Sec. 21. Amendatory clause.** Wherever in the following list of sections in Title 20 of the Revised Statutes the terms "State Board", "board", "State Board of Education", or "Department of Education" appear they shall mean the "Department of Educational and Cultural Services": Sections 57, 58, 59, 151, 212, 213, 222, 224, 855, 856, 916, 1053, 1281, 2202, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2352, 2355, 2356, 2356-A, 2356-B, 2356-E, 2356-G, 2357, 2452, sub-§ 2; 2551, 2651, 2652, 2655, 2661, 2662, 2703, 2704, 3111, 3455, 3457, 3458, 3460, 3732 and 3734.

**Sec. 22. Amendatory clause.** Wherever in Title 20 of the Revised Statutes the words "commissioner" or "Commissioner of Education" appear they shall mean "Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services."

**Sec. 23. Amendatory clause.** Wherever in Chapter 251 of Title 34 of the Revised Statutes the words "Department of Mental Health and Corrections" appear they shall mean the "Department of Educational and Cultural Services."

**Sec. 24. Funds and equipment transferred.** Notwithstanding the Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1585, all accrued expenditures, assets, liabilities, balances of appropriations, transfers, revenues or other available funds in any account, or subdivision of an account, of any agency to be reallocated to another department strictly as a result of the reorganization effort, shall be transferred to the proper place in the new structure by the State Controller, upon recommendation of the department head, the State Budget Officer and upon approval by the Governor and Executive Council.

**Sec. 25. Effective date.** This Act shall become effective July 1, 1972.