

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
June 19, 2018 to September 13, 2018

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
DECEMBER 13, 2018

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 5, 2018 to June 20, 2019

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2019

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6555 is enacted to read:
§6555. Dangerous behavior prevention and intervention

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Administrator" has the same meaning as in section 13001-A, subsection 1.

B. "Assigned public school employee" means a public school employee chosen by the local president of the applicable bargaining unit to review a reported incident of dangerous behavior.

C. "Dangerous behavior" means behavior of a student that presents a risk of injury or harm to a student or others.

2. Report of incident of dangerous behavior. Upon receipt of a report of an incident of dangerous behavior made by a teacher or school staff person, a school administrative unit shall review the reported incident and develop an individualized response plan in accordance with this subsection. The review of the reported incident must be conducted by an administrator and an assigned public school employee. If the report of the incident of dangerous behavior is substantiated, the school administrative unit shall, in consultation with the public school employee who was subjected to the dangerous behavior, if any, develop an individualized response plan to avoid future dangerous behavior, which may include but is not limited to:

A. Minimizing suspension and expulsion of the student;

B. Prioritizing counseling and guidance services for the student and educators;

C. Providing positive behavioral interventions and supports and supports designed to address the consequences of trauma in the individual and training for the student and educators;

D. Restorative practices;

E. Training for public school employees who interact with the student; and

F. Provision of adequate staffing and professional development necessary to implement the plan.

Nothing in this subsection may be construed as limiting any federally protected right of a student, including, but not limited to, federally protected rights of students with disabilities.

Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the contrary, in the case of a student eligible for services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or protected from discrimination under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, any discussions or actions related to the identification,

evaluation or educational placement of the student or provision of a free, appropriate public education to the student must take place through the processes established under federal law.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §13601, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Injuries caused by dangerous behavior. A school administrative unit may not count time away from work against a public school employee's accrued sick leave if the time away from work is due to an injury caused by dangerous behavior and a physician has determined that the public school employee is unable to work as a result of the injury sustained. For the purposes of this subsection, "dangerous behavior" has the same meaning as in section 6555, subsection 1, paragraph C.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 459

H.P. 1015 - L.D. 1400

**An Act To Improve
 Recruitment and Retention in
 State Law Enforcement by
 Offering Retirement Service
 Credit**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17767 is enacted to read:

§17767. Law enforcement service

Service credit for service in law enforcement is governed as follows.

1. Service before becoming member. A member who served as a full-time law enforcement officer with a federal, state, county or local law enforcement agency before becoming a member is entitled under this subsection to purchase service credit for the period of time that the member served as a law enforcement officer if the member has at least 15 years of creditable service at the time of retirement by complying with the terms and conditions of this subsection and the applicable provisions of subsection 2. Service credit purchased under this section is limited to 4 years. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, a member for which service credit under this section is to be granted must provide a certified statement from the appropriate retirement system that the service credit to be granted has not been and will not be used to obtain other retirement benefits.

2. Members qualified for credit at actuarial cost. A member qualified under subsection 1 to purchase service credit at the cost set forth in this subsection is entitled to service credit if the member pays an

amount that, together with regular interest on that amount, is the actuarial equivalent, at the effective date of the retirement benefit, of the portion of the retirement benefit based on the additional creditable service.

A. Payment must be made before any retirement benefit becomes effective for that member.

B. Payment may be made to the retirement system by a single direct payment or by annual direct payments in accordance with section 17701, subsection 4.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 769, §11, is amended to read:

B. For the purpose of meeting the qualification requirement of subsection 2, paragraph B:

(1) Service credit purchased by repayment of an earlier refund of accumulated contributions following termination of service is included if the time to which the refund relates was served in any one or a combination of the capacities specified in subsection 1, regardless of whether the time was served before or after the establishment of the 1998 Special Plan; and

(2) Service credit purchased other than as provided under subparagraph (1) is not included, except that service credit purchased for military service or for law enforcement service pursuant to section 17767 is included.

Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §18363 is enacted to read:

§18363. Law enforcement service

Service credit for service in law enforcement is governed as follows.

1. Service before becoming member. A member who served as a full-time law enforcement officer with a federal, state, county or local law enforcement agency before becoming a member is entitled under this subsection to purchase service credit for the period of time that the member served as a law enforcement officer if the member has at least 15 years of creditable service at the time of retirement by complying with the terms and conditions of this subsection and the applicable provisions of subsection 2. Service credit purchased under this section is limited to 4 years. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, a member for which service credit under this section is to be granted must provide a certified statement from the appropriate retirement system that the service credit to be granted has not been and will not be used to obtain other retirement benefits.

2. Members qualified for credit at actuarial cost. A member qualified under subsection 1 to purchase service credit at the cost set forth in this subsection is entitled to service credit if the member pays an

amount that, together with regular interest on that amount, is the actuarial equivalent, at the effective date of the retirement benefit, of the portion of the retirement benefit based on the additional creditable service.

A. Payment must be made before any retirement benefit becomes effective for that member.

B. Payment may be made to the retirement system by a single direct payment or by annual direct payments in accordance with section 17701, subsection 4.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 460

H.P. 1025 - L.D. 1412

**An Act To Amend the Laws
Governing the Collective
Bargaining Rights of
Employees of School
Management and Leadership
Centers**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17001, sub-§42, as amended by PL 2007, c. 491, §§66 and 67, is further amended to read:

42. Teacher. "Teacher" means:

A. Any employee of a public school or a school management and leadership center established pursuant to Title 20-A, chapter 123 who fills any position that the Department of Education requires be filled by a person who holds the appropriate certification or license required for that position and:

(1) Holds appropriate certification from the Department of Education, including an employee whose duties include, in addition to those for which certification is required, either the setup, maintenance or upgrading of a school computer system the use of which is to assist in the introduction of new learning to students or providing school faculty orientation and training related to use of the computer system for educational purposes; or

(2) Holds an appropriate license issued to a professional employee by a licensing agency of the State;

B. Any employee of a public school or a school management and leadership center established pursuant to Title 20-A, chapter 123 who fills any position not included in paragraph A, the principal