

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 2, 2020 to March 30, 2021

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
April 28, 2021 to July 19, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
OCTOBER 18, 2021

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

Augusta, Maine
2021

not limited to, the location of each voting place, the location of each secured drop box, the times for in-person absentee voting at the clerk’s office under section 753-B, subsection 8, the poll opening time and the number of voting booths that will be used.

Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §627, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Rulemaking. The Secretary of State may adopt rules governing pollwatchers, additional party workers and others present in the polling place as described in subsection 4. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §759, sub-§6, as amended by PL 1995, c. 459, §78, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6. Counting and results prohibited before the polls close. The absentee ballots may not be counted, voter intent may not be determined and election results may not be obtained or released until after the polls have closed on election day and all election day ballots have been cast and all absentee ballots have been processed. A municipality that uses a high-speed ballot tabulator and receives results at the completion of the ballot scanning may not view the results until after the polls close on election day.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 247

H.P. 1235 - L.D. 1664

An Act To Integrate African American Studies and the History of Genocide into the Statewide System of Learning Results

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4706, as amended by PL 2009, c. 313, §§8 and 9, is further amended to read:

§4706. Instruction in American history, African American studies, Maine studies and, Maine Native American history and the history of genocide

Instruction in American history, African American studies, government, citizenship and, Maine studies and the history of genocide must be aligned with the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements established under section 6209.

1. American history. American history, government and citizenship, including the ~~Constitution of the~~ United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the importance of voting and the privileges

and responsibilities of citizenship, must be taught in and required for graduation from all elementary and secondary schools, both public and private. African American studies must be included in the review of content standards and performance indicators of the system of learning results conducted in accordance with section 6209, subsection 4.

2. Maine studies. Maine history, including the Constitution of Maine, Maine geography and environment and the natural, industrial and economic resources of Maine and Maine's cultural and ethnic heritage, must be taught. A required component of Maine studies is Maine Native American studies, ~~which, Maine Native American studies and Maine African American studies~~ must be included in the review of content standards and performance indicators of the learning results conducted in accordance with section 6209, subsection 4. ~~The~~ Maine Native American studies must address the following topics:

- A. Maine tribal governments and political systems and their relationship with local, state, national and international governments;
- B. Maine Native American cultural systems and the experience of Maine tribal people throughout history;
- C. Maine Native American territories; and
- D. Maine Native American economic systems.

3. History of genocide. The history of genocide, including the Holocaust, must be included in the review of content standards and performance indicators of the system of learning results conducted in accordance with section 6209, subsection 4.

Sec. 2. Resource development; advisory group; curriculum audit; report. The Department of Education is responsible for fulfilling the requirements of this section.

1. Development of resources. The department shall identify and make available to schools resources and materials for teaching African American studies, including Maine African American studies, pursuant to this Act.

2. Advisory group. The department shall, within 30 days after the effective date of this Act, convene a volunteer advisory group to collect information and prepare materials for the teaching of African American studies and Maine African American studies. The advisory group must include scholars of African American history and culture; representatives from African American civil rights organizations in the State, African American history and cultural organizations and the Gerald E. Talbot Collection at the University of Southern Maine; the Maine State Archivist; and members of the public with personal experience that would inform the collection of information and preparation of materials under this section. The department shall include at

least one member from the advisory group in any group or committee convened to review the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements for social studies pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209, subsection 4.

3. Guidance; best practices; exemplar modules.

The department shall develop guidance, best practices and exemplar modules to support the integration of African American studies and Maine African American studies into the instruction of American history and Maine history.

4. Curriculum audit. The department shall develop a process that supports and enables a local school administrative unit to conduct an internal audit of its curriculum to ensure an equitable representation of African American voices and an accurate historical account of African American history and culture.

5. Reporting. The department shall submit a report on the progress of the implementation of this Act to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters no later than April 1, 2022.

Sec. 3. Effective date. That section of this Act that amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4706 takes effect July 1, 2023.

See title page for effective date, unless otherwise indicated.

CHAPTER 248

S.P. 557 - L.D. 1705

An Act To Support Maine Students Who Are Dependents of Current or Former Members of the Military

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §2404, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Virtual public charter school eligibility. In addition to the provision in subsection 1, a dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces who has received official military orders to relocate to this State is eligible to apply to a virtual public charter school.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5205, sub-§12 is enacted to read:

12. Military-connected student. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in chapter 901, a military-connected student whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to the State while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order is considered a resident of the school administrative unit in which the address identified by the parent pursuant to

paragraph C is located. For the purposes of this subsection, "military-connected student" has the same meaning as in section 6991.

A. A school administrative unit shall accept applications by electronic means for enrollment under this subsection, including enrollment in a specific school or program within the school administrative unit, and course registration.

B. The parent of a military-connected student shall provide proof of residence in the school administrative unit within 10 days after the arrival date provided on the parent's official military order.

C. A parent may identify any of the following as an address in the State for the purposes of this subsection:

- (1) A temporary lodging facility on a military installation as defined in section 20102;
- (2) A purchased or leased house or apartment; or
- (3) Federal Government or public-private venture military housing.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA c. 231 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 231

PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS

§6991. Definitions

In this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Military-connected student. "Military-connected student" means a student who is a dependent of:

- A. A current or former member of:
 - (1) The United States military serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force or Coast Guard on active duty;
 - (2) The Maine National Guard; or
 - (3) A reserve force of the United States military; or
- B. A member of a military or reserve force described in paragraph A who was killed in the line of duty.

§6992. Purple Star School

The department shall designate a school administrative unit as a Purple Star School if the school administrative unit applies and qualifies for the designation under this chapter.

§6993. Program requirements

To qualify as a Purple Star School, a school administrative unit must: