MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

130TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS

Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LD 44 An Act To Require the Department of Education To Report Annually on Summer Educational Programs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 32 requires the Department of Education to submit an annual report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on summer educational programs. The report must include the number of school administrative units administering programs, the nature of the programs, the number of participants in the programs, any partnerships with community-based organizations to provide the programs and the sources of funding for the programs. The report must also include recommendations, and any suggested legislation, on improving summer educational programs and any additional funding needed for the success of summer educational programs.

LD 52 An Act Regarding Collective Bargaining Negotiations by Public Employers of Teachers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 96 provides that educational policies related to preparation and planning time and transfer of teachers are permissive subjects of negotiation. Public Law 2021, chapter 96 also specifies the obligation of public employers of teachers regarding the meet and consult process as outlined in *Southern Aroostook Teachers Association v. Southern Aroostook Community School Committee*, MLRB No. 80-35, 80-40 (April 14, 1982), and provides that the bargaining agent may initiate the meet and consult process by notifying the public employer of teachers when an existing educational policy of the public employer of teachers is changed by practice or if the written notice required from the public employer of teachers is inadvertently omitted.

LD 55 An Act To Protect Minority Religious Groups by Eliminating the Prior Approval Requirement for a School Absence for a Recognized Religious Holiday

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 25 removes the requirement for prior approval for a school absence for a recognized religious holiday.

LD 68 An Act To Support Life and Career Readiness Education in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 190 updates the name of the Maine system of learning results content area of "career and education development" to "life and career readiness," and provides that, consistent with the life and career readiness standards of the Maine system of learning results