

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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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

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pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209 and Department of Education rule Chapter 132, each school administrative unit must offer relevant opportunities that may include interactive experiences and allow for direct exposure between students and a variety of career options to help students develop habits of efficacy, resourcefulness and adaptability as the students take steps to create and implement postsecondary school plans.

LD 104 An Act To Protect the Health of Student Athletes by Requiring the Department of Education To Report on the Incidence of Concussions

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 12 requires the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Maine Principals' Association or successor organization, to report annually to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on any available data on the incidence of concussions sustained by student athletes in the State using existing or new data collection systems. The report must include any recommendations on best practices for the collection of concussion data.

LD 127 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Program To Provide Grants for Professional Development in Computer Science Instruction

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 102 establishes a two-year pilot program to provide grants for professional development in computer science instruction. The funds must be used for high-quality, teacher-developed or teacher-led professional development for kindergarten to grade 12 computer science pedagogy and content, and the Department of Education must report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, no later than January 1, 2023, regarding the pilot program.

Resolve 2021, chapter 102 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2021.

LD 135 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services To Study a Centralized Billing Process for Developmental and School-based Services Covered by the MaineCare Program and Other Insurers and Report on Updates to the Child Find Process

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 109 directs the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services, to study the development of a centralized billing process for developmental and school-based services covered by the MaineCare program and other