

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> 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 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

- C. Review average debt incurred by students who begin but do not complete courses of study at community colleges and public universities in the State, the Maine Maritime Academy and private universities in the State and who do not transfer elsewhere to complete a course of study;
  - D. Review average debt incurred by students completing courses of study from, or attending but not completing courses of study from, institutions offering credentials of value other than two-year or four-year undergraduate degrees, not including graduate degrees;
  - E. Examine the impact of student loan debt on borrowers;
  - F. Examine the capacity of high school counselors and academic advisors in high schools in the State to adequately advise students regarding their options for postsecondary education, including career and technical education, and financing of postsecondary education; and
  - G. Examine the potential impacts of no-cost community college education on the workforce of the State.
3. It requires the commission to submit a report containing its findings and recommendations, including any recommendations for legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 2, 2022. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit a bill related to this report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

Resolve 2021, chapter 103 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2021.

### **LD 255 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop a Plan for the Provision of Early Intervention Services**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 110 directs the Department of Education to:

1. Convene an advisory committee to advise the department on the development of a plan for the provision of early intervention services for children from birth to under three years of age through a quasi-independent government agency structure, the option of pursuing the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Extended Part C Option under 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 303.211 and recommendations on the provision of services for children three years of age;
2. Develop a plan for the provision of early intervention services through a quasi-independent government agency structure, with the Department of Education providing oversight as the lead agency, and draft suggested legislation to implement the plan;
3. Conduct an analysis on the federal Extended Part C Option;

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4. Develop recommendations on the provision of services for children who are three years of age, including but not limited to whether children three years of age should receive services through the quasi-independent government agency structure, school administrative units or a hybrid system; and
5. Submit a report, no later than February 1, 2022, on the plan for early intervention services, including suggested legislation and a detailed analysis of any additional resources or statutory or regulatory changes necessary to implement the plan, the analysis of the federal Extended Part C Option and recommendations on the provision of services for children who are three years of age, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature related to the report.

Resolve 2021, chapter 110 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 15, 2021.

### **LD 261 Resolve, Directing the Advisory Committee on Truancy, Dropouts and Alternative Education To Study Truancy and Attendance in the State and Develop Recommendations To Improve Student Attendance**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 57 directs the advisory committee on truancy, dropouts and alternative education established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5152 to conduct a study on truancy and attendance data in the State and submit a report based on the study, in conjunction with the advisory committee's annual report, no later than February 1, 2022, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The report must include an in-depth analysis of the data on truancy and attendance, including an analysis of what is and is not working regarding student attendance and recommendations on how to improve attendance of all school-age children. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs is authorized to submit legislation relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

### **LD 277 An Act To Discontinue the Use of the SAT in Maine Schools**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 462 precludes the Department of Education from using the SAT as a method for assessing student performance. It requires the Department to develop an alternate method of assessing student performance to replace the use of the SAT and to report on the alternate method of assessing student performance to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by February 1, 2022.