

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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provision of services for children three years of age is through a quasi-independent agency, school administrative units, or a hybrid system.

Resolve 2021, chapter 106 also provides that the advisory committee may report separately to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs regarding its role in the development of the process, timeline and implementation plan.

The joint standing committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the department's report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

LD 429 An Act To Protect the Health of Students and Educators by Requiring School Emergency Management Plans To Address Health and Safety

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 464 expands the scope of school board emergency management plans to address issues related to health and safety. It requires the engagement of school nurses, physicians and public health staff in developing the comprehensive health and safety emergency management plan. It requires that, at the request of a school board member or full-time school employee, a steering committee be formed composed of school employees, school board members, parents and others that regularly reviews and refines the comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan. It requires that a majority of the school employees on the steering committee be chosen by the local representatives of the applicable bargaining unit if the school employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

LD 440 An Act To Conserve the Frances Perkins Homestead National Historic Landmark

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 418 provides one-time funding of \$100,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 to the Frances Perkins Center to ensure the public can access the Frances Perkins Homestead.

LD 453 An Act To Establish a Permanent Appointment of a Member of the Wabanaki Tribes to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 4 requires that at least one member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System be a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in Maine. The nomination of that member must be based on the joint recommendation of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation. If the tribal governments do not make a unanimous joint recommendation, the Governor is required to appoint

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a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in Maine and rotate the appointment among members of each federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in Maine.

LD 474 An Act Regarding School Discipline for Maine's Youngest Children

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 295 does the following.

1. It requires school superintendents to include, as part of the written notice provided to students and parents before expulsion hearings, a list of available free and low-cost legal services.
2. It requires the Department of Education to create the list of free and low-cost legal services and to update it annually.
3. It provides that a student code of conduct may not prescribe out-of-school suspension, expulsion or the withholding of recess, except as described below, as a consequence of a violation of the student code of conduct by any student enrolled in grade five or below except as provided under the federal Gun-Free Schools Act.
4. It provides that in limited circumstances, when there is no alternative time available, recess may be used for restorative interventions related to a student's behavior.
5. It allows for up to three days of out-of-school suspension for a student in grade five or below when there is an imminent danger of serious physical injury to the student or others and less restrictive interventions would be ineffective.

LD 515 An Act To Create New Models of Maine Manufacturing Employment and Education

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 144 requires the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council to coordinate the development of higher education programs and public-private partnerships to enhance higher education and employment opportunities in the State in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It directs the council to engage with the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, adult education programs, the Finance Authority of Maine, the Loring Development Authority of Maine and private sector stakeholders to develop proposals for a series of programs and initiatives to promote new models of manufacturing education and employment in the State. It adds language to allow the council, with approval of 2/3 of the council, to raise private funds as needed to complete its work. It provides additional flexibility in the placement of various programs from specific campuses to the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System.