

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 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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.