

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 1323 An Act To Maximize Service to Students by Adopting Conditional Allowances for Participation by Families of School Board Members in School Activities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 242 provides that until July 1, 2024 a school board may, but is not required to, permit a school board member's spouse to serve as a stipend employee or a volunteer. A school board may adopt a written policy on nepotism that includes hiring practices for school-sanctioned stipend positions and to discourage favoritism and political patronage, consider the needs of the school system and provide that all qualified applicants or volunteers have a fair and equal opportunity to be selected on merit, with priority consideration given to the best interest of students without restrictions based solely on family association.

LD 1373 An Act To Keep All Maine Students Safe by Restricting the Use of Seclusion and Restraint in Schools

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 453 prohibits a covered entity, defined as an entity that owns, operates or controls a school or educational program that receives public funds from the department, including but not limited to public schools, public regional programs, public charter schools, private schools, private schools approved for tuition purposes, special purpose private schools, career and technical education programs, public prekindergarten programs, and providers of services pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, from subjecting a student to unlawful restraint or seclusion and provides when a covered entity is permitted to use physical restraint or seclusion.

Public Law 2021, chapter 453 also requires each covered entity to submit a report to the Department of Education annually on the use of physical restraint and seclusion and requires the Department of Education to provide technical assistance to covered entities and adopt or amend major substantive rules regarding restraint and seclusion.

LD 1412 An Act To Update and Improve the MaineEARNs Database and Reconvene the State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 243 requires the Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Education and the State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force, to update the educational outcome database established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 12901, also known as the MaineEARNs database, no later than January 1, 2022 and biennially thereafter.