****

### Education-Related Legislation

**Enacted by the**

**127th Maine Legislature**

### First Regular Session

**Prepared by:**

**Maine Department of Education**

**Thomas A. Desjardin, Acting Commissioner**

**Summary of Education-Related Bills Enacted by the**

**First Regular Session of the**

**127th Maine Legislature**

| **Title** | **Provisions** | **Effective Date****Action Required** | **Contact** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LD 3, Public Law 2015, Chapter 40***An Act To Ensure Consistent Certification of Graduation Standards in Publicly Funded Secondary Schools (EMERGENCY)***REVISION to LD 3 on 9/25/15** | * Provides that public charter schools are eligible for transition grants to implement the proficiency-based diploma standards.
* Provides that public charter schools that operate a public preschool program must comply with the Department of Education rules regarding basic school approval requirements.
* Includes public charter school students in the statewide assessment program required under Maine Statutes.
* Provides that a private school approved for tuition purposes that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students may be approved under basic school approval provision if the private school also meets the requirements of the system of learning results.
 | April 30, 2015 | **Rachelle Tome** |
| **LD 10, Public Law 2015, Chapter 19***An Act To Establish Native American Heritage and Culture Day* | * Establishes Native American Heritage and Culture Day on March 20 to honor the service, sacrifice, heritage and cultural contributions of Maine Indian tribes and directs the Governor to issue a proclamation advising Mainers to observe this day.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Anita Bernhardt****Kristie Littlefield** |
| **LD 38, Public Law 2015, Chapter 18***An Act To Allow Sufficient Time for Implementation of the Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth System for Educators (EMERGENCY)* | * Delays by one year (to the 2015-2016 school year) the phased stages to implement educator effectiveness requirements for school administrative units, with the 2015-2016 year being the pilot year.
 | April 12, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Anita Bernhardt****Chuck Lomonte** |
| **LD 59, Public Law 2015, Chapter 97***An Act To Protect Students' Rights and Privacy Regarding Their School Records* | * Establishes the same standards and prohibitions regarding the dissemination of education records and personally identifiable information about students to publicly funded schools, private schools approved by the Department and private schools recognized by the Department as providing equivalent instruction.
* Directs the Commissioner to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs with recommendations for an appropriate penalty for a violation of this Act. The Committee is authorized to submit a bill related to implementing a penalty for a violation to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.
 | October 15, 2015Commissioner to submit the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 15, 2016. | **Suzan Beaudoin****Brian Snow** |
| **LD 97, Resolve 2015, Chapter 2***Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend the School Emergency Drill Rules* | * Directs the Department of Education and State Board of Education to amend Joint Rule Chapter 125: *Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units*  to include lockdown drills as well as emergency evacuation drills within the established required number of drills to be performed.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Adopt routine technical rule after statute goes into effect. | **Scott Brown****Martha Harris, State Board of Education** |
| **LD 129, Public Law 2015, Chapter 60***An Act To Provide Options to Schools for Making Up School Days (EMERGENCY)* | * Provides that school administrative units may, after notice to and approval of a plan by the Commissioner, extend up to 25 school days in the school year by one hour each day. Five one-hour extensions to count as one additional school day. Schools may use the extensions only to make up school days missed because of weather or emergency closures.
* Directs the Department of Education and State Board of Education to amend Joint Rule Chapter 125: *Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units*  regarding the methods required and the options available for school officials to request a waiver from the Commissioner of Education to schedule make-up days and reschedule instructional time.
* Directs the amendments to the rule be completed within 7 business days of the effective date of this legislation and provides that the amended rule becomes effective on the date filed by the Department.
 | May 10, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Final adoption of amended Rule Chapter 125 on May 14, 2015 to complete provisions of this bill. | **Jaci Holmes****Martha Harris, State Board of Education** |
| **LD 131, Public Law 2015, Chapter 54***An Act To Amend the Laws Related to Public Funding of Charter Schools (EMERGENCY)*  | * Requires an authorizer of a charter school (as of this time, only the Maine Charter School Commission) to include submission of their annual report to the Legislature in addition to the Commissioner.
* Requires the authorizer, within 10 days of rendering a decision on an application for a charter or detailing actions regarding actions taken regarding renewal, non-renewal or revocation of a charter, to file notice of that decision with the Legislature in addition to the Commissioner.
* Establishes provisions beginning in fiscal year 2015-16 that calculate the total allocation of funds to be provided under General Purpose Aid for Local Schools to public charter schools that are authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission.
* Requires that up to 3% of this amount must be transferred to the Maine Charter School Commission.

  | May 8, 2015 | **Debra Plowman****Suzan Beaudoin****Robert Kautz, Maine Charter School Commission** |
| **LD 201, Resolve 2015, Chapter 25***Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY)* | Authorizes the Department of Education to proceed to final adoption of a provisionally adopted amended Rule Chapter 101: *Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty*, a Major Substantive Rule Education contingent upon the Department's making specified changes to the proposed rules: * The rule must be amended in Sections II.19, IV.2.B and VI2.A to strike the term “Service Coordinator” and restore the term “Case Manager” in alignment with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act Part B.
* The rule must be amended in Section IV.2.E. by amending the referral timeline to require that the Intermediate Educational Unit must send a consent to evaluate form to the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team within 15 days for additional evaluations needed for a child.
* The rule must be amended in Section V.1.A. by adding language that indicates that the initial evaluation must consist of procedures to determine if the child age 3 to age 20 does have a disability and to determine the educational needs of such child.
* The rule must be amended in Section V.2.F. by striking subparagraph (3).
* The rule must be amended in V.4.B. to restore the requirement of a written evaluation report of determination (whether the child age 3 to age 20 does have a disability) submission no later than 40 school days or 50 days for children in Child Development Services. Parents must receive the report at least 3 days prior to the meeting of the IEP.
* The rule must be amended in Section IX.3.B(2) to restore language that specifies that an IEP development meeting is conducted within 30 days of a determination that the child needs special education and related services.
 | June 11, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Final adoption of amended Rule Chapter 101 effective July 19, 2015. | **Jan Breton** |
| **LD 231, Public Law 2015, Chapter 338***An Act To Ensure That Schoolchildren with Dyslexia Receive the Assistance Needed* | MANDATE PREAMBLE* Requires school administrative units, beginning in school year 2016-2017, to screen for dyslexia any students from kindergarten to grade 2 who have certain difficulties as noted by a classroom teacher including: Phonological and phonemic awareness, sound-symbol recognition, alphabet knowledge, decoding skills; rapid naming skills; and encoding skills.
* Defines these terms.
* Requires the Commissioner to create a dyslexia coordinator position by October 15, 2015.
* Directs the dyslexia coordinator to develop a plan before March 1, 2016 that implements dyslexia awareness.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Jan Breton** |
| **LD 235, Public Law 2015, Chapter 7***An Act To Adjust Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of the Department of Education, the Maine Arts Commission and the Maine State Museum and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 (EMERGENCY) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)* | **This is the 2015 Supplemental Budget****PART C*** Amends the lease-purchase authorization for the Maine Learning Technology Initiative enacted in PL 2013, Chapter 368 PART JJ, Section 1 to revise the principal and interest caps to include leases that schools pay for as well leases the State pays for.
 | April 1, 2015 | **Thomas Desjardin, Acting Commissioner****Mike Muir** |
| **LD 299, Public Law 2015, Chapter 311***An Act To Protect Children in School Facilities by Requiring Boiler Inspections* | MANDATE PREAMBLE* Re-establishes the requirement, eliminated by Public Law 2013, Chapter 595, that boilers in schools be inspected to ensure their safe operation.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Scott Brown** |
| **LD 350, Public Law 2015, Chapter 63***An Act To Expedite MaineCare Payments for School Administrative Units* | * Ensures that the transfer of MaineCare seed payments for school administrative units are made in a manner that remains in compliance with federal intergovernmental transfer requirements.
* Sets in statute a schedule for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to provide detailed information to the Department of Education (DOE) no more than 90 days from the occurrence of school based costs of MaineCare payments. The DOE must apply the adjustments to school administrative units within 30 days of the receipt of information from DHHS.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Suzan Beaudoin** |
| **LD 417, Public Law 2015, Chapter 64***An Act Regarding Measures To Ensure Support for Students' Financial Literacy* | * Directs the Commissioner of Education to identify best practices to support students' financial literacy for those schools offering financial literacy education.
* Directs the Commissioner to submit the financial literacy annual report by January 13, 2016 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The report is to include strategies and resources available to implement an integrated model for instruction in financial literacy as well as the best practices identified above.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Submit the annual report on finding, strategies and resources to the Education Committee by January 13, 2016 | **Anita Bernhardt****Kristie Littlefield** |
| **LD 418, Resolve 2015, Chapter 52***Resolve, To Study the Use of Social Impact Bonds as a Funding Mechanism for Public Education Programs in Maine* | * Requires the Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI) to study use of social impact bonds to fund extended learning and prekindergarten programs.
* Directs MEPRI to submit a report with findings and may recommend possible legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 2, 2015.
* The Education Committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.
 | October 15, 2015Review the MEPRI study. | **Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** |
| **LD 428, Public Law 2015, Chapter 72***An Act To Amend the Powers and Duties of the State Board of Education* | * Authorizes the State Board of Education to enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement regarding postsecondary distance education, to administer and to approve or disapprove an application to participate by a postsecondary institution that has its main campus in Maine.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Martha Harris, State Board of Education** |
| **LD 454, Public Law 2015,****Chapter 256***An Act To Enact the Student Information Privacy Act* | * Establishes the Student Information Privacy Act, which prohibits the operator of an Internet website, online service or mobile application designed, marketed and used for kindergarten to grade 12 purposes from presenting targeted advertising to students, compiling a profile of a student except in furtherance of school purposes, selling student data or disclosing student personally identifiable data without consent.
* Permits an operator to disclose data in certain circumstances and under certain limitations, including to ensure legal and regulatory compliance, to participate in judicial process, for legitimate research purposes and for school purposes to a school, school administrative unit or state agency.
* Requires an operator to maintain reasonable security procedures and practices to protect student data and requires an operator to delete data upon request of a school or school administrative unit.
* Requires the operator to comply with the Student Information Privacy Act by the 2016-2017 school year if signing a contract with the Department of Education, a school administrative unit or a school prior to enactment.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Suzan Beaudoin****Sarah Forster****Brian Snow** |
| **LD 461, Public Law 2015, Chapter 65***An Act To Change the Notification Deadline for the Nonrenewal of a Teacher's Contract* | * Changes the deadline to May 15 for a superintendent to provide notification in writing of nonrenewal of a contract to a teacher who received a summative effectiveness rating indicating ineffectiveness pursuant to the performance evaluation and professional growth system established under Title 20-A, chapter 508 for the preceding school year. If the deadline is not met, the contract is automatically extended for one year.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Anita Bernhardt****Chuck Lomonte** |
| **LD 462, Public Law 2015, Chapter 73***An Act To Clarify Rulemaking for Transportation of Public School Students* | * Amends conflict in statutory language between Title 20-A and Title 29-A.
* Requires the Department of Education to adopt major substantive rules in the event that the Federal Government or the State requires transportation to be provided for public preschool children.
 | October 15, 2015Provisionally adopt rules as necessary. | **Jaci Holmes** |
| **LD 470, Public Law 2015, Chapter 240***An Act To Allow Children's Residential Care Facilities To Ensure the Safety of Their Residents* | * Clarifies that an administrator or other designated staff of a children's home or children's residential care facility may search a resident's backpack or travel bag and confiscate items if there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the backpack or travel bag contains misappropriated articles or items that would endanger the health or safety of the resident or other residents.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Jan Breton** |
| **LD 522, Public Law 2015, Chapter 321** *An Act To Clarify a Recently Enacted Law Designed To Expand the Number of Qualified Educators* | * Amends the provisions of Public Law 2013, Chapter 486, which pertain to retirement age classroom teachers and classroom-based employees, to also apply to classroom teachers and classroom-based employees in the unorganized territory.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Shelley Lane** |
| **LD 537, Public Law 2015, Chapter 183***An Act To Avoid the Inappropriate Use of Assessment Tools on Children before Grade 3* | * Clarifies that early childhood statewide assessment tools may be used on ages 4 to 9 to inform instruction and to communicate effectively with parents, but that the assessments may not label children, restrict entry to kindergarten or predict children’s future academic and life success.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Anita Bernhardt****Sue Reed** |
| **LD 550, Public Law 2015, Chapter 236***An Act To Improve the Process for Obtaining an Adjustment in State Valuation Due to Sudden and Severe Reduction in Municipal Valuation (EMERGENCY)* | * Amends a condition of eligibility for an adjustment of state valuation for sudden and severe disruption of municipal valuation by providing that a municipality is eligible if the municipality's equalized tax rate of residential property following the sudden and severe disruption in municipal valuation exceeds the most recent state average of residential property for which data is available.
 | June 23, 2015 | **Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** |
| **LD 556, Public Law 2015, Chapter 140***An Act To Require Public Schools To Offer Instruction Related to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator* | * Directs public schools to offer training to students on how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and on the use of automated external defibrillators.
* Directs the Department to adopt routine technical rules that establish standards for this instruction based on programs established by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross or another program that is nationally recognized.
* The rules will not require school administrative units to make additional local expenditures in offering training requirements
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Develop routine technical rules. | **Rachelle Tome****Nancy Dube** |
| **LD 557, Public Law 2015, Chapter 369***An Act To Provide Reasonable Accommodations for School Attendance for Children Certified for the Medical Use of Marijuana* | * Provides that a child, who holds a written certificate for the medical use of medical marijuana, may not be denied eligibility to attend school solely because the child requires medical marijuana in a nonsmokeable form as a reasonable accommodation necessary for the child to attend school.
* Provides that a parent, guardian, person with legal custody or other person designated as a primary caregiver for a minor child certified for the medical use of marijuana may possess and administer marijuana in a nonsmokeable form to that child in a a school bus or on the grounds of a preschool or primary or secondary school. The choice of a certified caregiver is determined solely by the parent, guardian or person having legal custody. In order to be a certified caregiver, the individual cannot have a drug conviction within the last ten years. Other convictions do not preclude the ability of a designated primary caregiver from entering onto school property in order to administer medical marijuana. Certified caregivers may have multiple patients.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Rachelle Tome****Nancy Dube** |
| **LD 582, Public Law 2015, Chapter 359***An Act To Establish a State Educational Medicaid Officer* | * Directs the Department of Health and Human Services to create a Comprehensive Health Planner II position to work in coordination with the Department of Education and school administrative units to assist schools with MaineCare questions.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Jaci Holmes** |
| **LD 692, Public Law 2015,****Chapter 3***An Act Regarding Educator Effectiveness (EMERGENCY) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)* | * Directs school administrative units to use state assessment data for English language arts and math as a measure of performance for teachers and as a measure of performance for principals.
* Clarifies that an educator whose summative effectiveness rating is ineffective must receive an annual summative effectiveness evaluation until the rating improves.
* Specifies that an individualized education plan (IEP) may not be used to measure student growth for the purposes of teacher and principal evaluation.
* Directs the Department to amend Rule Chapter 180: *Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems*, a major substantive rule, as a routine technical rule emergency to comply with a variety of measures.
* Directs the amendments to the rule be completed within 7 business days of the effective date of this legislation and provides that the amended rule becomes effective on the date filed by the Department.
* Directs each school administrative unit to submit to the Department by July 15, 2015, a plan describing the pilot project in accordance with the amended Rule Chapter 180.
 | March 17, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Final adoption of amended Rule Chapter 180 completed on March 18, 2015. | **Rachelle Tome** **Anita Bernhardt**  |
| **LD 763, Public Law 2015, Chapter 286***An Act To Change the Budget Approval Process for Alternative Organizational Structures* | * Requires that a change in the school budget approval process for alternative organizational structures (AOS) must be approved at the next regular election or special referendum election by a majority of the total number of voters of all of the member municipalities of the AOS. A special referendum election must be called by a majority vote of the governing body of the AOS.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** |
| **LD 840, Public Law 2015, Chapter 367***An Act To Collect and Report Data on the Implementation of Proficiency-based Diplomas and Standards-based Student Learning* | * Directs the Department to annually collect and report data on the progress of public schools and public charter schools towards the implementation of proficiency-based diplomas and the number of students graduating with proficiency-based diplomas, and awarded proficiency in each of the content areas of Maine’s Learning Results
* Directs the Department, by January 15, 2017 and annually thereafter, to submit a report of the data collected for the prior school year to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.
* Requires the report to be posted on the Department’s public website.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Submit report by January 15, 2017 and annually to the Education Committee. | **Anita Bernhardt****Diana Doiron** |
| **LD 853, Public Law 2015, Chapter 342***An Act To Allow Secondary Schools To Grant Certificates of Academic Proficiency* | * Authorizes that school administrative units (SAUs) may award a certificate of content area proficiency to a student for each content area of Maine’s Learning Results.
* Directs the SAU to report the issuance of certificates of content area proficiency to the Department.
* The Department may collect and report aggregate data reported by school administrative units.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Rachelle Tome** **Lance Gilman****Brian Snow** |
| **LD 856, Public Law 2015, Chapter 257***An Act To Amend the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program To Allow for Participation in Early College and Career and Technical Education Programs* | * Expands and increases funding in the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program through the Department of Labor to include full-time students under18 years of age at a public secondary school and enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or region. These students must meet the eligibility criteria of the program.
* Provisions of this amendment to the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program are repealed January 1, 2020.
* Directs the Department of Labor to submit a report by January 1, 2019 to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development on the inclusion of public secondary school students under 18 years of age.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Rachelle Tome****Meg Harvey** |
| **LD 878, Public Law 2015, Chapter 103***An Act To Support College Affordability in Maine* | * Allows the Finance Authority of Maine to provide consolidation loans for student debt of Maine students as part of its existing Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Anita Bernhardt****Angel Loredo** |
| **LD 967, Public Law 2015, Chapter 197***An Act To Establish Municipal Cost Components for Unorganized Territory Services To Be Rendered in Fiscal Year 2015-16 (EMERGENCY)* | * Establishes the municipal cost components for state and county services, including education in the unorganized territory, provided to the unorganized territory that would be paid for by a municipality for FY 2015-16. The municipal cost components constitute the property tax for the unorganized territory.
* The cost component for Education in the Unorganized Territory (EUT) for 2015-16 is $12,129,121.
 | June 16, 2015 | **Shelley Lane** |
| **LD 1014, Public Law 2015, Chapter 295***An Act To Ensure Confidentiality of Personally Identifying Information for Professional Investigators, Investigative Assistants and Dependents of Deployed Members of the Military* | * Clarifies that personally identifying information concerning dependents of members of the US Armed Forces or state military forces who are deployed out of state may only be disclosed if:

a) there is written consent of the subject or, if less than 18 years of age, a parent or guardian;b) there is a court order;c) for criminal justice purposes; or d) for official purposes of the Maine Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management or the US Department of Veterans Affairs.* Defines "dependent" as the same meaning as provided in 10 US Code, Section 1072.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Jaci Holmes** |
| **LD 1019, Public Law 2015,****Chapter 267***An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017 (EMERGENCY) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)* | **This is a FY 15 Supplemental and the FY 16 / FY 17 Biennial Budget** **PART A**Appropriates the total budget for the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the Maine Charter School Commission including General Fund, Federal Expenditures Fund, Fund for a Healthy Maine, Other Special Revenue Funds and Federal Block Grant Fund.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| Department of Education Total All Funds  | $1,433,388,693 | $1,444,946,951 |
| State Board of Education Total All Funds  | $164,633 | $163,571 |
| Maine Charter School Commission Total All Funds | $298,406 | $298,406 |

**Maine Department of Education**Adult Education* Provides General Fund and Federal Fund appropriations in the budget for Adult Education in FY 16 and FY 17.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| General Fund - Position Count | 3.000 | 3.000 |
| Personal Services | $262,451 | $256,516 |
| All Other | $5,962,512 | $5,962,512 |
| General Fund Total | $6,224,963 | $6,219,028 |
| Federal Expenditures Fund-Position Count | 2.000 | 2.000 |
| Personal Services | $223,583 | $218,509 |
| All Other | $1,874,267 | $1,874,267 |
| Federal Expenditures Fund Total | $2,097,850 | $2,092,776 |

Charter School Program* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for the Charter School Program of $500 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

Child Development Services* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for the Child Development Services of $27,985,282 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides Federal Fund appropriations in the budget for the Child Development Services of $2,301,036 in FY 16 and $2,299,769 in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations for technology costs for the Child Development Services of $550,000 in FY 16 and $700,000 in FY 17.

Commission To End Student Hunger* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the Commission to End Student Hunger of $500 in FY 16 and in FY 17 to establish an account that can be used to accept contributions to support the work of the Commission and four privately funded hunger coordinators.

Criminal History Record Check Fund* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the Criminal History Record Check Fund of $376,381 in FY 16 and $376,153 in FY 17.
* Reduces Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations by ($316,101) in FY 16 and by ($341,101) in FY 17 since fees collected for criminal history record checks are now deposited in a Department of Public Safety account rather than a Department of Education account and then transferred to Public Safety.

Digital Literacy Fund* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for Digital Literacy Fund of $156,115 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations of $300,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17 to promote digital literacy and teacher professional development and training on the use of online learning resources.

Education in Unorganized Territory* Provides General Fund, Federal Fund and Other Special Revenue appropriations in the budget for Education in Unorganized Territory.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| General Fund - Position Count | 22.500 | 22.500 |
| Personal Services | $3,071,850 | $3,063,639 |
| All Other | $9,225,078 | $9,225,078 |
| General Fund Total | $12,296,928 | $12,288,717 |
| Federal Expenditures Fund-Position Count | 2.000 | 2.000 |
| Personal Services | $140,368 | $140,850 |
| All Other | $146,611 | $146,611 |
| Federal Expenditures Fund Total | $286,979 | $287,461 |
| Other Special Revenue Funds |  |  |
| All Other | $8,135 | $8,135 |

* Eliminates 3 part-time positions and General Fund appropriations from Education in Unorganized Territory programs by ($35,359) in FY 16 and by ($36,419) in FY 17.

Fund for a Healthy Maine - School Breakfast Program* Provides Fund for a Healthy Maine appropriations in the budget for the School Breakfast Program of $213,700 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services of $500 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations for one-time funding for consolidation of school administrative units of $750,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

General Purpose Aid for Local Schools* Provides General Fund and Other Special Revenue appropriations in the budget for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools in FY 16 and FY 17.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| General Fund |  |  |
| General Fund - Position Count | 22.000 | 22.000 |
| Personal Services | $2,004,454 | $1,991,967 |
| All Other | $927,379,942 | $927,379,942 |
| General Fund Total | $929,384,396 | $929,371,909 |
| Other Special Revenue Funds |  |  |
| All Other | $13,782,644 | $13,782,644 |

* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools to cover obligations of publicly funded students and teacher in Maine of $34,699,613 in FY 16 and of $36,130,634 in FY 17 and Other Special Revenue Funds of $2,405,259 in FY 16 and of $2,567,138 in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools for the state share of the normal cost component of teacher retirement costs of $3,509,583 in FY 16 and of $4,120,411 in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools of $150,000 for FY 17 for 3 community schools to be part of a 5-year pilot project beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Leadership Team* Provides General Fund, Federal Fund and Other Special Revenue appropriations in the budget for Leadership Team in FY 16 and FY 17.
* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations for programs and training costs of $150,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

Learning Through Technology* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the Learning Through Technology of $6,141,815 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations for Learning Through Technology to provide laptops for schools that lease them of $6,000,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

Maine Community Services* Provides Federal Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the Maine Community Services in FY 16 and FY 17.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| Federal Fund |  |  |
| Federal Fund - Position Count | 5.000 | 5.000 |
| Personal Services | $384,404 | $386,267 |
| All Other | $1,631,264 | $1,631,264 |
| Federal Fund Total | $2,015,668 | $2,017,531 |
| Other Special Revenue Funds |  |  |
| All Other | $167,535 | $167,535 |

* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds for Maine Community Services appropriations to support service learning and assessment of civic health of $65,000 in FY16 and in FY 17.
* Provides Federal Funds for Maine Community Services appropriations for grants to be distributed through AmeriCorps grant awards of $727,075 in FY16 and in FY 17.

Maine HIV Prevention Education Program* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for the Maine HIV Prevention Education Program of $150,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

National Board Certification Salary Supplement Fund* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the National Board Certification Salary Supplement $335,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

National Board Certification Scholarship Fund* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the National Board Scholarship Fund of $75,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

Obesity and Chronic Disease Fund* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the Obesity and Chronic Disease Fund of $500 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs * Provides General Fund, Federal Fund and Other Special Revenue appropriations in the budget for PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs in FY 16 and FY 17.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| General Fund |  |  |
| General Fund - Position Count | 16.500 | 16.500 |
| Personal Services | $1,701,052 | $1,670,213 |
| All Other | $3,118,940 | $3,118,940 |
| General Fund Total | $4,819,992 | $4,789,153 |
| Federal Fund |  |  |
| Federal Fund - Position Count | 24.000 | 24.000 |
| Personal Services | $2,002,815 | $1,986,175 |
| All Other | $89,464,800 | $89,464,800 |
| Federal Fund Total | $91,467,615 | $91,450,975 |
| Other Special Revenue Funds |  |  |
| Other Special Revenue -Position Count | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| Personal Services | $49,714 | $50,261 |
| All Other | $71,897 | $71,897 |
| Other Special Revenue Total | $121,611 | $122,158 |

* Establishes a Regional Education Representative position for math in PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs and increases General Fund Personal Services and All Other appropriations of $105,059 in FY 16 and of $106,639 in FY 17.
* Provides Federal Fund appropriations in the PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs for the federal After School Learning Center Formula Award grant of $500,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Reduces Federal Fund appropriations in PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs for refugee children’s impact grant program of ($140,917) in FY 16 and in FY 17. Grant is no longer available.
* Continues an Education Specialist II position in the PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs Federal Fund established by Financial Order through December 31, 2018 and provides funding for school administrative units to be sub-recipients of the preschool development federal grant. Increases appropriations of Federal Fund Personal Services by $97,976 in FY 16 and by $96,160 in FY 17 and All Other by $3,679,971 in FY 16 and by $3,921,949 in FY 17.

Retired Teachers Group Life Insurance * Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for the Retired Teachers Group Life Insurance of $3,660,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Reduces General Fund appropriations for Retired Teachers Group Life Insurance of ($499,683) in FY 16 and of ($389,072) in FY 17.

Retired Teachers Health Insurance* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for Retired Teachers Health Insurance of $31,000,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations for Retired Teachers Health Insurance for increased costs of $1,200,000 in FY 16 and of $6,300,000 in FY 17.

School Finance and Operations* Provides General Fund, Federal Fund and Other Special Revenue appropriations in the budget for School Finance and Operations in FY 16 and FY 17.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| General Fund |  |  |
| General Fund - Position Count | 12.000 | 12.000 |
| Personal Services | $861,870 | $863,407 |
| All Other | $1,730,663 | $1,730,663 |
| General Fund Total | $2,592,533 | $2,594,070 |
| Federal Fund |  |  |
| Federal Fund - Position Count | 8.000 | 8.000 |
| Personal Services | $665,911 | $660,663 |
| All Other | $51,554,172 | $51,554,172 |
| Federal Fund Total | $52,220,083 | $52,214,835 |
| **Other Special Revenue Funds** |  |  |
| **Other Special Revenue -Position Count** | 3.000 | 3.000 |
| **Personal Services** | $278,264 | $274,778 |
| **All Other** | $409,671 | $409,671 |
| **Other Special Revenue Total** | $687,935 | $684,449 |

* Continues an Education Specialist I position in the School Finance and Operations Federal Fund established by Financial Order and transfers Federal Fund All Other to Personal Services appropriations of $74,089 in FY 16 and of $75,671 in FY 17.
* Establishes 2 Public Service Coordinator II positions in School Finance and Operations. Reorganizes a Financial Coordinator-Program Administrator to a Public Service Manager II and a Public Service Manager II to a Public Service Executive II to provide more comprehensive and integrated approach to planning and construction of public school buildings. Increases Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services appropriations of $240,822 in FY 16 and of $239,824 in FY 17 as well as All Other of $24,100 in FY 16 and of $23,106 in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations in School Finance and Operations for ongoing licensing, maintenance and support costs for new computer applications for adult education and school nutrition of $337,496 in FY 16 and of $256,086 in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations in School Finance and Operations to cover merchant fees and InforME payment engine fees for certification activities of $148,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides funds for a Planning and Research Associate II position in School Finance and Operations to increase communication and cooperation between the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services, to provide staffing services to the Commission to End Student Hunger, to monitor child hunger and nutrition programs in both Departments, and to provide information to local school administrative units on the existing programs and available funding. Increases General Fund Personal Services appropriations in School Finance and Operations $73,104 in FY 16 and $75,491 in FY 17 and All Other appropriations $7,151 in FY 16 and $5,351 in FY 17.
* Provides Federal Fund appropriations in School Finance and Operations in the budget to receive possible federal grant funds to increase contributions to local school administrative units that purchase produce from a farmer, a farm coop or local food hub in Maine and to implement local foods training of $500 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides General Fund appropriations in School Finance and Operations for annual competitive skill-oriented school food services recognition events that emphasize creative, effective use of local foods of $7,850 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

Special Services* Provides Federal Fund and Federal Block Grant appropriations in the budget for Special Services in FY 16 and FY 17.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | FY 16 | FY 17 |
| Federal Fund |  |  |
| Federal Fund - Position Count | 27.000 | 27.000 |
| Personal Services | $2,231,968 | $2,207,432 |
| All Other | $60,248,974 | $60,248,974 |
| Federal Fund Total | $62,480,942 | $62,456,406 |
| Federal Block Grant |  |  |
| Federal Block Grant -Position Count | 2.000 | 2.000 |
| Personal Services | $184,318 | $183,870 |
| All Other | $57,083 | $57,083 |
| Federal Block Grant Total | $241,401 | $240,953 |

Teacher Retirement* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for Teacher Retirement of $147,283,723 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Reduces General Fund appropriations for Teacher Retirement costs based upon actuarial estimates from the Maine Public Employees Retirement System of ($34,805,886) in FY 16 and of ($30,869,162) in FY 17.

**State Board of Education**State Board of Education* Provides General Fund appropriations in the budget for the State Board of Education Personal Services of $90,939 in FY 16 and $89,877 in FY 17 and All Other of $73,694 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

**State Charter School Commission**State Charter School Commission* Provides General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations in the budget for the State Charter School Commission. General Fund of $148,406 in FY 16 and $ in FY 17. Other Special Revenue Funds Personal Services of $6,600 in FY 16 and in FY 17 and All Other of $11,900 in FY 16 and in FY 17.
* Provides Other Special Revenue Funds appropriations for per diems and other costs related to overseeing public charter schools in Personal Services of $5,500 in FY 16 and in FY 17 and in All Other of $126,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17.

**PART B** **Reclassifications**Provides funding for:* General Purpose Aid for Local Schools
* PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs
* School Finance and Operations

**PART C** * Sets the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 and the costs of enhancing student performance for fiscal year 2015-16, the state contribution ($983,647,195 under chapter 606-B), the mill rate expectation (8.23), debt service, and the annual target state share percentage for fiscal year 2016-2017.
* Amends the transition grants for proficiency-based graduation, if funds are available, from all school administrative units to only those school administrative units that operate schools. Also, amends that calculation of the grants from 1/10 of 1% of the school administrative unit’s (SAUs) total cost of education through the 2014-2015 school year to 1/9 of 1% beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Use of the grants is determined by the SAUs to fund cost of the transition not otherwise subsidized by the State.
* Delays until FY 17-18 the requirement that $4,000,000 in revenue received from casino slot machines or casino table games be distributed by the Department to provide start-up funds for approved public preschool programs for children 4 years of age.
* Authorizes the Commissioner to expend and disburse funds to support school improvement activities, enhancements to career and technical education programs and performance evaluation and professional growth systems.
* Requires the Commissioner to expend and disburse $75,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17 to support postsecondary education attainment in Androscoggin County.

**PART L*** Amends Title 20-A MRSA §15671(1) in order to be consistent with changes made to Title 5 MRSA §1665(1) for expenditure and appropriation requirements**.**

**PART AA*** Directs the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with a 3rd party to conduct a rate study of the following services in Department of Health and Human Services Rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual: medication management and outpatient services under Section 65: Behavioral Health Services and all services under Section 28: Rehabilitative and Community Support Services for Children with Cognitive Impairments and Functional Limitations. The 3rd party is to include stakeholders for these services in the rate study.
* Directs the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a report with findings by January 1, 2016 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

**PART OO*** Authorizes the Department to purchase portable computer devices for students and educators for FY 16 and FY 17. Financing agreements are not to exceed 4 years in duration and $95,000,000 in principal costs for the Maine Learning Technology Initiative.

**PART PP*** Requires the State Controller to transfer $750,000 in FY 16 and in FY 17 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Fund for Efficient Delivery of Educational Services, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Education.

**PART QQ** * Renames the PK-20, Adult Education and Federal Programs Team the Learning Systems Team.

**PART CCC*** Establishes the Commission to End Student Hunger to consist of 11 members:
1. One Senator.
2. One Representative.
3. Three public members appointed by Senate President from 3 of the following: 1 from organization dedicated to food security, 1 from organization dedicated to alleviating child hunger, 1 from organization that runs a food pantry, 1 food service director from a municipality or school administrative unit that uses the USDA community eligibility provision.
4. Three public members appointed by the Speaker of the House from 3 of the following: 1 from a farm organization, 1 from organization that runs a school food program for students in at risk areas, 1 superintendent of schools, 1 elected official in a municipality that participates in the USDA community eligibility provision.
5. A public member appointed by the Governor who is a parent of a child that has or is participating in the free or reduced price student meal program.
6. The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services or designee.
7. The Commissioner of Department of Education or designee.
* Directs the Commission to meet at least 2 but not more than 4 times per year and work to implement the 5-year plan the Task Force to End Student Hunger. The Commission may conduct public meetings to highlight the issue of student hunger.
* Directs the Commission to compile data on opportunities to increase food security; raise awareness, assist school boards, food service directors and community leaders on the effort.
* Requires an annual report by November 15 of each year on food insecurity in communities and school administrative units and progress made in decreasing student hunger.
* Directs the Department of Education to provide staff assistance to the Commission.
* Directs the Commission to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs a report annually by January 10 on findings and recommendations to eliminate student hunger and may also submit proposed legislation.
* Directs the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services, through a new position created in this Budget, to collaborate, cooperate and increase communications to reduce student hunger and also directs representatives of the Departments to meet quarterly.
* Directs the Departments to provide quarterly reports to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and to the Commission to End Student Hunger.
* Requires the Departments to expand access to data to measure and track access to participation in child hunger and nutrition programs; provide analyses to school administrative units of existing programs and state and federal funding not being used; and publish student meal program data on the Department’s websites.
* Requires the Departments to enlist Maine’s congressional delegation to encourage participation in federal meals and snacks programs for students and administration of those programs easier.

**PART GGG*** Establishes the ability for a school board to designate an existing school or develop a new school as a community school.
* Defines a “community school” as a public elementary or secondary school participating in a community – based effort to coordinate and integrate educational, developmental, family, health and other services through community-based organizations and public and private partnerships, as well as providing access to services to students, families and community members before and after school, on weekends and during the summer.
* Defines a “community partner” as a provider of any of the above services to students, families and community members.
* Directs the school board to develop a community school plan for each school designated as a community school to be consistent with the goals of promoting success and addressing the needs of the whole student.
* Authorizes the school administrative unit to accept gifts or grants to assist in developing a community school.
* Authorizes the Commissioner to provide state funding to school administrative units (SAUs) where community schools are located and give priority to SAUs in which at least 40% of the students are economically disadvantaged.
* Authorizes the Department to designate 3 community schools as part of a 5-year pilot project beginning in school year 2016-17 and may employ a state community school coordinator to implement this pilot project. This pilot project section is repealed July 1, 2021.
* Authorizes the Commissioner to expend and disburse funds for the establishment of community schools.

**PART OOO*** Directs the Department to apply for federal grant funding for the implementation of the local foods training program and increases the state contribution for the Local Produce Fund and makes implementation of the training contingent on receipt of funding to cover the cost of the training. The Department may accept grant funding from hospitals and other sources.
* Directs the Department to develop and post a model position description for school food service program personnel on its publicly accessible website and to develop an annual competitive skill-oriented school food service recognition emphasizing creative and effective use of local foods.

**PART QQQ*** Expands eligibility for the educational opportunity tax credit to individuals graduating after December 31, 2007 with an associate or bachelor's degree from an accredited non-Maine school and to individuals graduating with a graduate degree from an accredited Maine school, but it specifies that a credit claimed under this expanded eligibility may be claimed only on returns filed for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

**PART SSS*** Requires that full fees for criminal history record checks for school employees be deposited in an Other Special Revenue Funds account of the Department of Public Safety for the purpose of paying the costs of the Department of Public Safety to administer the criminal history record checks for the Department of Education rather than in a Department of Education account.
* Requires that a portion of the fees be transferred from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Education Criminal History Record Check Fund to cover a portion of the cost of a position that issues certificates.

**PART AAAA*** Establishes the Put ME to Work Program in the Maine Quality Centers of the Maine Community College System to facilitate the establishment of job training programs at community colleges in Maine by working with private businesses and community colleges to provide training to prepare workers for jobs in high-demand fields.
* Requires a business, a group of businesses or a trade association participating in the job training program, to provide at least 50% of the cost of the program, which may be through in-kind contributions.
* Directs the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System to adopt necessary policies and procedures for implementation of Put ME to Work.
* Recruitment of prospective trainees and preliminary screening and testing must be done in conjunction with the Department of Labor’s career centers as well as job training providers, industry partners and others.
* Requires applicants to meet a specific training program’s related academic and admissions standards to be eligibility for the training.
 | June 30, 2015Review the report by the Department of Health and Human Services.Participate as a member of the Commission.Commission to submit reports annually by January 10 to the Education Committee.Departments to submit quarterly reports to the Education Committee and to the Commission.Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Tom Desjardin, Acting Commissioner****Suzan Beaudoin****Elaine Babb****Anita Bernhardt****Gail Senese****Debra Plowman****Cindy Brown** **“** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley** **Suzan Beaudoin****Kathy Hollicker** **“****Mike Muir** **“****Shelley Lane** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley****Suzan Beaudoin** **Anita Bernhardt****Rachelle Tome** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** **“** **“****Tom Desjardin, Acting Commissioner** **“****Mike Muir** **“****Rachelle Tome****Maryalice Crofton****Rachelle Tome****Maryalice Crofton** **“** **“****Rachelle Tome****Susan Berry****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Rachelle Tome****Susan Berry****Anita Bernhardt****Rachelle Tome****Anita Bernhardt**  **“****Rachelle Tome****Anita Bernhardt****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley****Scott Brown****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Kathy Hollicker****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley****Jan Breton****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** **“****Martha Harris, State Board of Education****Bob Kautz, State Charter School Commission****Deb Plowman** **“** **Tom Desjardin, Acting Commissioner****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** **“** **“** **“** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Jan Breton** **“****Mike Muir****Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen****Anita Bernhardt****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley** **“** **“** **“** **“** **“** **“** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley** **“****Rachelle Tome****Jaci Holmes** **“** **“** **“** **“** **“** **“****Rachelle Tome****Jaci Holmes** **“****Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley** **“****Anita Bernhardt****Angel Loredo****Suzan Beaudoin****Kathy Hollicker** **“****Rachelle Tome****Anita Bernhardt****Gail Senese**  **“** **“** **“** **“** |
| **LD 1042, Resolve 2015, Chapter 46***Resolve, To Create the Task Force on School Leadership (EMERGENCY)* | * Creates the 17 member Task Force on School Leadership to be assembled and staffed by the Legislature.
* The Task Force is to consist of the following:
1. A Senator
2. 2 members of the House of Representatives
3. 7 members appointed by the Senate President: two members with expertise in school leadership issues; a secondary school principal; an assistant principal; a school special education director; a teacher who has a school administrator certificate; and a superintendent of a small rural school district.
4. 6 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives: two members with expertise in school leadership issues; an elementary school principal; a secondary school principal; a Maine Principals Assoc. staffer; a superintendent of a large urban school district.
5. The Commissioner of Education or designee.
* Directs the Task Force to be appointed within 30 days of the effective date of this Resolve.
* Requires the Task Force to meet twice to conduct a comprehensive study on excellence in school leadership in prekindergarten to grade 12 public schools and develop strategies to enhance the identification, recruitment, preparation, mentoring, evaluation, professional development and retention of effective public school principals and other leaders.
* Directs the Task Force to submit a report including findings and recommendations by December 2, 2015 including suggested legislation for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.
 | July 12, 2015Participate as a member of the Task Force.Task Force to submit a report by December 2, 2015 to Legislature. | **Rachelle Tome** |
| **LD 1048, Private and Special 2015, Chapter 4***An Act To Allow School Administrative District No. 27 To Transfer Ownership of the St. Francis Elementary School to the Town of St. Francis (EMERGENCY)* | * Authorizes the Board of Directors of School Administrative District No. 27 to transfer to the Town of St. Francis, ownership of the St. Francis Elementary School building and its site, subject to the approval of the voters of the Town of St. Francis.
* Following the transfer of ownership, the Town of St. Francis may lease a portion of the St. Francis Elementary School building and its site back to School Administrative District No. 27 for use for educational purposes. As long as SAD No. 27 has a lease, other uses of the property must be compatible with use of the property for educational purposes.
 | April 30, 2015 | **Suzan Beaudoin****Joanne Allen** |
| **LD 1076, Resolve 2015, Chapter 35***Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Increase Public Awareness about and Access to Federal Resources Related to Vaccine Injuries* | * Directs the Department of Health and Human Services to post on their website links to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program and Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System as well as other resources.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Rachelle Tome****Nancy Dube** |
| **LD 1085, Public Law 2015, Chapter 317***An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Receipt of a Request for Public Records* | * Amends the Maine Freedom of Access (FOA) Act to clarify that the agency or official that forwards a public record request to their office that has custody of the records that are the subject of the request to notify the requester that the request has been forwarded to the appropriate office and that the 5-day period within which the receipt of the request must be acknowledged begins to run when that receiving office receives the request.
* Requires the public access officer designated by each agency, county, municipality, school administrative unit and regional or other political subdivision to acknowledge within 5 working days of receipt of the FOA request by the office responsible for maintaining the public record requested.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Debra Plowman** |
| **LD 1086, Public Law 2015, Chapter 248***An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee To Create a Remedy for Unduly Burdensome and Oppressive Requests* | * Amends the Freedom of Access Act to authorize a body, agency or official to deny a request for inspection or copying of public records, in whole or in part, on the basis that the request is unduly burdensome or oppressive.
* Requires that the body, agency or official seek protection from an unduly burdensome or oppressive request by filing an action in Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of the request.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Debra Plowman** |
| **LD 1087, Public Law 2015, Chapter 249***An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Response Deadlines and Appeals* | * Amends the Freedom of Access Act to clarify the wording of the starting point of the 5-day period within which a written notice of denial of a public records request must be provided and includes in that time frame the written expectation that the request will be denied in full or in part following a review.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Debra Plowman** |
| **LD 1125, Public Law 2015, Chapter 231***An Act To Expand Public Access to Epinephrine Autoinjectors* | * Defines authorized entities as entities, organizations and places of employment at which allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, *other than schools*, to stock prescribed epinephrine autoinjectors.
* Requires training to employees or agents of authorized entities in order to provide or administer epinephrine autoinjectors to persons believed in good faith to be experiencing anaphylaxis.
* Provides that those entities, organizations and places of employment may not be held liable for any injuries or related damages that may result unless those injuries or related damages are caused willfully, wantonly or recklessly or by gross negligence.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Rachelle Tome****Nancy Dube** |
| **LD 1173, Public Law 2015, Chapter 251***An Act To Improve School Administrative Efficiency and Expand Capacity for Professional Growth for Educators with Regional Collaborative Programs and Services* | * Adds public institutions of higher education and nonprofit corporations to the entities that school administrative units may enter into collaborative agreements with to achieve efficiencies.
* Expands criteria established for providing grant funds from the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services by requiring that priority must be given to high-quality professional development initiatives aligned with evidence-based best practices that can be linked to improvements in student learning and expansion of opportunities for professional growth for teachers and principals.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Rachelle Tome** |
| **LD 1180, Public Law 2015, Chapter 292***An Act To Require Education in Public Preschool Programs and Elementary Schools Regarding Child Sexual Abuse* | Mandate Preamble* Requires the Commissioner of Education to develop a model policy on child sexual abuse prevention education and response for public preschool programs and elementary schools by July 1, 2016.
* Directs the Department to make the model policy available to school administrative units and post of the Department’s web site.
* Directs the Department to assist school administrative units with a public preschool program or an elementary school in developing their own policies for child sexual abuse prevention education and response, based upon the model policy by the 2017-2018 school year.
 |  October 15, 2015 Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update. | **Rachelle Tome****Susan Berry** |
| **LD 1199, Public Law 2015, Chapter 141***An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services* | * Amends the laws governing the Department of Labor, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services by specifying the Department of Labor as the designated state agency to provide rehabilitation services under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and naming the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired as the designated state units to determine eligibility for individuals to receive rehabilitation services and services related to blind and visually impaired individuals as well as work with school administrative units in transition planning for students.
* Defines “gainful employment" as it pertains to the different standards within the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
* Reduces the number of members on the Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened from 24 members and 3 at large members to up to 23 members and provides that members serve 3-year terms and may serve multiple terms without limit.
* Updates references to the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Jan Breton** |
| **LD 1222, Public Law 2015, Chapter 181***An Act To Remove Barriers to School Construction Financing in Regional School Units* | * Provides that bonds a regional school unit issues for a non-state-funded school construction project that is 100% locally funded may be repaid using a level debt payment structure only if the payment structure results in lower costs for the regional school unit throughout the life of the issue of the bonds.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Scott Brown** |
| **LD 1230, Public Law 2015, Chapter 372***An Act To Create a Digital Content Library for Education (EMERGENCY)* | * Requires the Commissioner to create a digital content library to make digital educational content and learning resources aligned with Maine’s educational initiatives available to all students and to develop methods for administration of a digital content library.
* Requiresthe Commissioner to convene an advisory group consisting of, at the least: a Department representative, a Maine public school educator, and a representative from a statewide educational association or organization to design, review and suggest modifications and updates to the digital content library.
* The advisory group is to establish an implementation plan and timeline for the digital content library and recommend a business model allowing for competitive low cost exchange of digital educational content.
* Authorizes the Commissioner to provide professional development and training in the use of the digital content library.
* Establishes the authority for the Commissioner to enter into a contract with an entity to implement any recommendations of the advisory group.
* Directs the Commissioner with recommendations of the advisory group to submit a report by January 15, 2016 and annually thereafter to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.
 | July 16, 2015Establish an advisory group.Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Submit a report by January 15, 2016 and annually to the Education Committee. | **Anita Bernhardt Mike Muir** |
| **LD 1235, Resolve 2015, Chapter 41***Resolve, To Strengthen Standards-based Diplomas* | * Creates the 14 member Maine Proficiency Education Council to be assembled by the Commissioner of Education and staffed by the Department of Education.
* The Council is to consist of the Commissioner; a member of State Board of Education; 4 public school teachers (1 to be a special education teacher); 2 public school administrators (submitted by the ME Principals’ Assoc. and the ME School Superintendents Assoc.); 2 school board members (submitted by the ME School Boards Assoc.); a faculty member representing the University of Maine; 2 members of the business community; and 2 members of the public interested in education.
* Directs the Council to study, review and provide recommendations for implementing standards-based graduation requirements for all students including assessments.
* Requires the Commissioner to submit a report on findings and recommendations of the Council to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2016.
* Authorizes the Council to meet, if they wish to, 90 days beyond the adjournment of the 127th Legislature Second Regular Session.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Convene and participate as a member of the Council.Commissioner to submit report by January 1, 2016 to the Education Committee. | **Rachelle Tome****Anita Bernhardt** |
| **LD 1276, Private and Special Law 2015, Chapter 10***An Act To Improve Educational Assessments of Maine Students* | * Directs the Department to terminate the State's membership in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and the use of the Smarter Balanced Assessment used for student achievement in school year 2014-15 and to adopt for school year 2015-16 and beyond a method of educational assessment that complies with federal law but does not collect or disseminate personal data and attributes of students, such as attitudes, values, motivations, stereotypes and feelings.
* Requires that the state assessment of student achievement be chosen with direct input from education stakeholders and must specifically address the needs of students and citizens of Maine.
 | October 15, 2015Include in Commissioner’s Dispatch or Update.Collaborate with education stakeholders. | **Thomas Desjardin, Acting Commissioner****Rachelle Tome****Charlene Tucker** |
| **LD 1277, Public Law 2015, Chapter 363***An Act To Establish a Magnet School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering* | * Establishes the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering, to be located in the Town of Searsport, as a public residential magnet school for the purpose of providing certain high-achieving high school students with a challenging educational experience.
* Establishes the Board of Trustees to be the policy making authority and governing body of the school consisting of 17 voting and 2 nonvoting members:
1. The Commissioner of Education or designee.
2. The Chancellor of University of ME System or designee.
3. A member of the school board of the regional school unit from the community of Searsport or that member’s designee selected by board.
4. A citizen of the Town of Searsport who has an active interest in education, appointed by Governor.
5. 3 teachers (1 who is a full-time teacher at the School nonvoting and elected by School’s faculty and 2 are teachers representing different geographic regions appointed by the Governor).
6. 10 members of general public (at least 4 must be scientists, engineers or mathematicians employed by marine related businesses, a 1 a parent of a student) appointed by the Governor and subject to approval and confirmation of the Legislature.
7. A student elected as the presiding officer of the student body of the School who is a voting member except for any executive session business.
8. The Executive Director (serving as the Clerk of the Board of Trustees) who is the other non-voting member.
* Requires the Board of Trustees meet 4 times per year.
* Students from Maine may attend the School tuition-free. Students from other states and countries may attend on a space-available basis by paying the cost of tuition, fees, and room and board as established by the Board of Trustees.
* Directs the Board of Trustees to submit a plan that outlines the programs provided by the School the offers access to short duration programs to students and educators not residing at the School by February 15, 2017.
* Directs the Board of Trustees to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committees on Education and Cultural Affairs and Appropriations and Financial Affairs by December 1, 2018 on the commencement and operations of the school including number of student enrolled and budget status.
* L.D. 1277 terminates the powers, duties and authority of the School 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.
* Authorizes that the Education Committee may report out a bill relating to the School to the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature which may include but is not limited to a repeal of the provision of law that terminates the powers, duties and authority of the School.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Rachelle Tome****Anita Bernhardt** |
| **LD 1291, Public Law 2015 Chapter 347***An Act To Promote Food Self-sufficiency for the People of the State* | * Directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, in coordination with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Community College System, the Department of Labor, the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education to develop an educational marketing campaign to promote food self-sufficiency by encouraging the public to grow gardens, raise farm animals, preserve garden-grown food through the use of social media, radio, posters, brochures and publicly accessible agencies’ websites.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Suzan Beaudoin****Walter Beesley** |
| **LD 1347, Public Law 2015, Chapter 179***An Act To Implement Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee To Clarify That Competitive Bid Provisions Apply to Grant Awards* | * Adds the word "grant" where applicable to clarify that the statutory provisions requiring competitive bidding, and related provisions, apply to grant awards as well as contracts made by any department or agency of the State.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Debra Plowman** |
| **LD 1365, Public Law 2015, Chapter 278***An Act Regarding Licensed Children's Programs* | * Requires licensed child care facilities, certified family child care providers and licensed nursery schools to report incidents that result in the death of a child in the care of the facility or that could cause serious harm to the physical or mental health, safety or well-being of a child and result in transportation of the child to a hospital by emergency medical services personnel.
* Requires the facility to file an incident report by the next business day to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Cindy Brown****Anita Bernhardt****Sue Reed** |
| **LD 1441, Public Law 2015, Chapter 261***An Act To Establish the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee* | * Replaces the Education Coordinating Committee with the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee to consist of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System (UMS), the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, the President of the Maine Community College System (MECCS) and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System.
* The new Committee may appoint designees to a subcommittee.
* Directs the Committee to promote efficiency, cooperation, strategic planning between the governance of the UMS and the MECCS, address various issues including improving college affordability, promoting student transfer between systems, reducing duplication of programs, identifying opportunities for building cross-system economies of scale and sharing of resources.
* Directs the Committee to work with the Maine Maritime Academy to pursue opportunities for collaboration and resource sharing.
* Directs the Committee to consult with the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the State Board of Education to explore and pursue opportunities to improve college preparation, transition and completion for Maine's students.
* Requires the Committee to hold its first meeting by October 15, 2015 and hold at least 2 meetings a year.
* Directs the Committee to submit an annual report including its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by February 15th.
 | October 15, 2015Commissioner to consult with Committee.Committee to submit annual report by February 15th to the Governor and the Education Committee. | **Tom Desjardin, Acting Commissioner****Rachelle Tome****Anita Bernhardt****Angel Loredo** |
| **LD 1443, Public Law 2015, Chapter 170***An Act To Merge the Maine Educational Loan Authority with the Finance Authority of Maine (GOVERNOR'S BILL)* | * As successor to the Maine Educational Loan Authority, the Finance Authority of Maine affirmatively assumes and agrees to be obligated in the place of the Maine Educational Loan Authority and to continue to abide by the terms of all bonds and all documents, contracts and undertakings in connection with the bonds.
* Establishes the Maine Educational Loan Program to be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Anita Bernhardt****Angel Loredo** |
| **LD 1452, Public Law 2015, Chapter 328***An Act To Make Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Legislation* | * Amends the laws governing the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity tax credit program.
* Directs the Bureau of Revenue Services to include in the March 1, 2021, implementation report to the Joint Standing Committees on Education and Cultural Affairs and Taxation statistics on credits claimed, cost analysis of the

Credits and impact of the program on Maine’s labor force.* Amends the qualifications for an individual to be eligible for the credit if the individual received an associate or bachelor's degree from an accredited Maine or non-Maine community college, college or university after December 31, 2015 or received a graduate degree from an accredited Maine college or university after December 31, 2015.
* After January 1, 2013, the financial aid package may include financial aid obtained for up to 30 credit hours of course work at an accredited non-Maine community college, college or university earned prior to transfer to an accredited Maine community college, college or university, if the 30 credit hours were earned after December 31, 2007 and the transfer occurred after December 31, 2012.
 | October 15, 2015 | **Anita Bernhardt****Angel Loredo** |

**Studies, Working Groups and Stakeholder Groups Requiring Report-Backs**

**Stakeholder, Working Groups and Report-Backs**

LD 1019 - An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds and

Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017 (EMERGENCY) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

PART CCC Establishes the Commission to End Student Hunger

LD 1042- *Resolve, To Create the Task Force on School Leadership (EMERGENCY)*

LD 1230 - An Act To Create a Digital Content Library for Education (EMERGENCY)

LD 1235 - Resolve, To Strengthen Standards-based Diplomas

LD 1276 - An Act To Improve Educational Assessments of Maine Students

LD 1441 - An Act To Establish the Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee

**Studies, Reviews and Report-Backs**

LD 59 - An Act To Protect Students' Rights and Privacy Regarding Their School Records

LD 417 - An Act Regarding Measures To Ensure Support for Students' Financial Literacy

LD 418 - Resolve, To Study the Use of Social Impact Bonds as a Funding Mechanism for Public Education Programs in Maine

LD 840 - An Act To Collect and Report Data on the Implementation of Proficiency-based Diplomas and Standards-based Student Learning

**Legislation Requiring Rulemaking**

**Rulemaking**

LD 97 – Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend the School Emergency Drill Rules

 *Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units*

LD 129 – An Act To Provide Options to Schools for Making Up School Days (EMERGENCY)

 *Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units*

LD 201 – Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a

Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY)

LD 462 – An Act To Clarify Rulemaking for Transportation of Public School Students

LD 556 – An Act To Require Public Schools To Offer Instruction Related to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated

External Defibrillator

LD 692 – An Act Regarding Educator Effectiveness (EMERGENCY) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

*Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems*

**Listing of Education-Related Carry Over Bills**

**for the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature by Title Only**

***Education and Cultural Affairs Committee***

LD 215 - An Act To Improve Student Retention in Maine's Postsecondary Institutions

LD 305 - An Act To Authorize Circus Conservatory of America To Grant Baccalaureate Degrees (EMERGENCY)

LD 356 - An Act To Permit the New England School of Dental Technology To Grant the Degree of Bachelor of Science

LD 419 - An Act To Promote Academic Opportunities for Maine Youth during Summer Months

LD 981 - An Act To Establish a Veterinary School

LD 1033 - Resolve, To Assist the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System To Reduce the Need for Remedial Education

LD 1253 - An Act To Improve the Evaluation of Public Schools

LD 1370 - An Act To Improve the Quality of Teachers

LD 1394 - An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula (EMERGENCY)

***Appropriations and Financial Affairs***

LD 385 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Improvements to Facilities at the University of Maine System Campuses

LD 387 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Agricultural Enterprises and Encourage the Use of Local Farm Products in

Public Schools

LD 453 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade and Replace Infrastructure of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation

LD 733 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Build the Infrastructure Needed To End Hunger in Central and Northern Maine

LD 747 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Assist in the Creation and Retention of Jobs and Improve Access to Higher

Education in Maine

LD 784 - An Act To Authorize a Revenue Bond for a Student Loan Reduction Plan

LD 931 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development for the University of Maine System

LD 995 - An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Participating Local Districts in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

LD 1336 - An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Community Colleges

***Health and Human Services Committee***

LD 213 - An Act To Ensure the Comprehensive Medical, Dental, Educational and Behavioral Assessment of Children Entering State Custody

LD 622 - An Act To Require Training of Mandated Reporters under the Child Abuse Laws

LD 949 - An Act To Enact the Recommendations of the Commission on Independent Living and Disability (PARTS B, C, AND D)

LD 1267 - An Act To Assist Working Families with Young Children

***State and Local Government Committee***

LD 6 - Resolve, To Implement Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee to Strengthen the Ethics Practices and Procedures for Executive Branch Employees

LD 1286 - An Act To Ensure the Use of Environmentally Responsible Insulation Materials in Taxpayer-funded Building Projects

LD 1298 - An Act Relating to the Creation of Public-private Facilities and Infrastructure

***Taxation***

LD 281 - Resolve, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Madison To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the Madison Paper Company and To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Skowhegan To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the S.D. Warren Company (EMERGENCY)

LD 646 - An Act To Provide Incentives for Municipal Cooperation and Shared Services

LD 898 - An Act To Reduce Student Loan Debt through an Expansion of the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit

**Veterans and Legal Affairs**

LD 1343 - An Act To Increase Access to Postsecondary Education for Maine National Guard Members