



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1083

S.P. 365

In Senate, March 19, 2013

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop a
Process To Provide Alternative Pathways To Learning for Certain
High School Students**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MASON of Androscoggin.

1 **Sec. 1. Review; develop process. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of
2 Education, referred to in this resolve as "the commissioner," shall review the issues
3 presented when secondary school students, after repeated school interventions and
4 individualized, targeted efforts, continue to be habitually disruptive in the classroom.
5 The commissioner shall examine the impact of the presence of such students on the rest
6 of the classroom and the school community and shall assess the benefits and detriments to
7 those students and to those schools of requiring continued school attendance by those
8 students. The commissioner shall examine the establishment of an exemption from the
9 laws governing compulsory school attendance and shall develop a process to identify
10 those secondary school students who, because of the students' recurring discipline issues,
11 might benefit from exemption from the laws governing compulsory school attendance.
12 The commissioner shall identify potential options for alternative pathways to successful
13 learning for such students, including but not limited to trade apprenticeships, internships
14 and independent learning leading to high school equivalency certification, and shall
15 examine ways to ensure that information regarding these alternative pathways is made
16 available to such students; and be it further

17 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the commissioner shall submit a report of the
18 findings under section 1, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the
19 Joint Standing Committee on Education no later than December 4, 2013. The committee
20 may submit a bill based on the commissioner's report to the Second Regular Session of
21 the 126th Legislature.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to review the issues presented
24 when secondary school students, after repeated school interventions and individualized,
25 targeted efforts, continue to be habitually disruptive in the classroom. The resolve directs
26 the commissioner to examine the impact of the presence of such students on the rest of
27 the classroom and the school community and develop a process to identify secondary
28 school students who, because of the students' recurring discipline issues, might benefit
29 from exemption from the laws governing compulsory school attendance. The resolve
30 directs the commissioner to identify potential options for alternative pathways to
31 successful learning for such students, including but not limited to trade apprenticeships,
32 internships and independent learning leading to high school equivalency certification, and
33 examine ways to ensure that information regarding these alternative pathways is made
34 available to such students.