



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1379

H.P. 1013

House of Representatives, April 7, 2021

**An Act To Establish a Lifetime Substitute Teacher Certification for
Established and Successful Educators**

Received by the Clerk of the House on April 5, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTEAU of Augusta.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13027** is enacted to read:

3 **§13027. Lifetime substitute teaching certificate**

4 **1. Application, review and certificate issuance.** A person who meets the eligibility
5 requirements of subsection 2 may apply for a lifetime substitute teaching certificate by
6 filing an application with the department. The commissioner shall review the application,
7 and if the commissioner approves the application, the commissioner shall issue the
8 applicant a lifetime substitute teaching certificate.

9 **2. Eligibility.** To be eligible for a lifetime substitute teaching certificate, a person
10 must have held for at least 10 years a professional teacher certificate issued pursuant to this
11 Title that has never been revoked or suspended.

12 **3. State and federal laws, rules and regulations.** A lifetime substitute teaching
13 certificate holder is subject to all state and federal laws, rules and regulations related to
14 criminal history record checks and special education training.

15 **4. Proof of qualifications.** The department may not require a holder of a lifetime
16 substitute teaching certificate to provide proof of professional development, continuing
17 education credits, education or other similar qualifications to maintain the certificate.

18 **5. Revocation.** A lifetime substitute teaching certificate is subject to the same laws
19 for revocation as any teaching certificate.

20 **6. Renewal not required.** A person who holds a lifetime substitute teaching
21 certificate is not required to renew the certificate.

22 **7. No annual fee.** The department may assess a one-time fee for a lifetime substitute
23 teaching certificate but may not require a holder of a lifetime substitute teaching certificate
24 to pay an annual fee to maintain the certificate.

25 **Sec. 2. Rules.** The Department of Education shall adopt rules setting a reasonable
26 one-time fee for a lifetime substitute teaching certificate under the Maine Revised Statutes,
27 Title 20-A, section 13027, subsection 7. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine
28 technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education to issue lifetime substitute teaching
31 certificates to teachers in the State who have held for at least 10 years a professional teacher
32 certificate that has never been revoked or suspended.