



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1588

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H.P. 1046

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

### An Act to Ensure Transparency in Student Transfer Requests

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

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham.  
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and  
Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, COLLINS of Sidney, GRIFFIN of Levant,  
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, Senators: HARRINGTON of  
York, LIBBY of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §5205, sub-§6, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 456, §1, is  
3 further amended by enacting at the end a new last blocked paragraph to read:

4 By July 1st of each year, a school administrative unit shall report to the commissioner  
5 the total number of transfer requests presented to the school administrative unit in the  
6 last year, including requests to transfer to or from the school administrative unit. The  
7 report must also state the number of transfers accepted, state the number of transfers  
8 denied, include the written description for each denial and specify for each transfer  
9 request presented whether the school administrative unit was requested to send or  
10 receive the student requesting the transfer. The commissioner shall annually publish a  
11 de-identified version of the data on the department's publicly accessible website. For  
12 the purposes of this paragraph, "de-identified" means that any potential personal  
13 identifying information of a student has been removed.

14 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §5205, sub-§6, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 456, §2, is  
15 further amended by enacting at the end a new first blocked paragraph to read:

16 The commissioner shall publish on the department's publicly accessible website the  
17 number of transfer determinations, the number of transfers accepted and the number of  
18 transfers denied, including a de-identified version of the written decision required  
19 pursuant to this paragraph. For the purposes of this paragraph, "de-identified" has the  
20 same meaning as in paragraph A.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill modifies the education laws governing student transfers to require greater  
23 transparency by school administrative units and the Commissioner of Education. The bill  
24 requires school administrative units to report information pertaining to requests by students  
25 to transfer either to or from that school administrative unit within the past year. The bill  
26 also requires the commissioner to make a de-identified version of that information available  
27 on the Department of Education's publicly accessible website, including information  
28 related to any transfer request reviewed by the commissioner.