



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1802

H.P. 1343

House of Representatives, December 9, 2021

An Act To Amend the Requirements of the Reorganization Plan for the Formation of Regional School Units

Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 7, 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 STEARNS of Guilford.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1461, sub-§3, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 580, §3, is
3 further amended in subparagraph (1) by repealing the first blocked paragraph.

4 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §1461, sub-§3, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 580, §3, is
5 further amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

6 (2) The plan must provide comprehensive programming for all students from
7 kindergarten to grade 12 and must include at least one publicly supported
8 secondary school, except if the plan provides comprehensive programming:

9 (a) For all students from grade 9 to grade 12 within the regional school unit,
10 with programming for students from kindergarten to grade 8 provided by the
11 separate school administrative units;

12 (b) For all students from kindergarten to grade 8 within the regional school
13 unit, with programming for students from grade 9 to grade 12 provided through
14 the use of school choice pursuant to section 1479, subsection 4 or by a contract
15 with another school administrative unit; or

16 (c) For all students in a grade configuration that meets the needs of the students
17 from the municipalities that make up the regional school unit.

18 **Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §1479, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 171, §2, is further
19 amended to read:

20 A regional school unit shall maintain a program that includes kindergarten to grade 12
21 except for the school administrative districts that did not operate kindergarten to grade 12
22 that were reformulated into regional school units in accordance with Public Law 2007,
23 chapter 240, Part XXXX, section 36, subsection 12, as amended by Public Law 2007,
24 chapter 668, section 48, and except for a regional school unit operating under a plan
25 described in section 1461, subsection 3, paragraph B, subparagraph (2), divisions (a) to (c).

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill modifies the regional school unit formation process to provide for
28 comprehensive programming for all of the students from kindergarten to grade 12 with
29 exceptions for those school administrative units that would benefit from a different grade
30 level configuration in the regional school unit, allowing for the provision of comprehensive
31 programming for which the regional school unit is responsible through the use of school
32 choice, by a contract with another school administrative unit or by some other means.