

## Representative Millett Proposed Amendment

### LD 325, An Act To Expand the Definition of "Education Disruption" To Include States of Emergency That Limit Students' Access to On-site Education for Longer Than 15 School Days

*\*This proposed amendment would replace the current bill\**

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §257-A is amended to read:

#### §257-A. Department of Education diploma

The commissioner shall issue a Department of Education diploma to a student who qualifies for the diploma pursuant to this section. A Department of Education diploma has the same legal status as a diploma awarded by a school administrative unit. [PL 2013, c. 439, §2 (NEW).]

**1. Eligibility to apply for diploma.** A student is eligible to apply for a Department of Education diploma if that student is unable to satisfy the requirements for a diploma from a school administrative unit because the student experienced one or more education disruptions, as defined in [section 5161, subsection 2-A](#), during the student's educational history; or

1A. the student is a fourth-year secondary school student unable to satisfy the requirements for a diploma from a school administrative unit because the student experienced a significant education interruption as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and civil emergency order during the student's secondary education history. This subsection is repealed on September 1, 2025.

[PL 2013, c. 439, §2 (NEW).]

**2. Standard for awarding diploma.** The commissioner shall issue a diploma under this section only to a student who demonstrates achievement of the content standards of the system of learning results established pursuant to [section 6209](#).

[PL 2013, c. 439, §2 (NEW).]

**3. Process.** A student who seeks a Department of Education diploma shall submit an application to the commissioner, including such evidence of student achievement and other information as is required by the commissioner. Evidence of student achievement may include, but is not limited to, transcripts, waivers, academic reports and school work recognition plans. The commissioner shall form a review team to review evidence of student achievement and to make a recommendation to the commissioner on the awarding of a diploma under this section. The commissioner shall make the final determination of eligibility for a diploma under this section.