

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Mandate That the School Year Not Begin before September 1st
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §4777 is enacted to read:

§ 4777. Fall semester

The fall semester for the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System may not begin before September 1st.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §4801, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. School year. Beginning with school year 2012-2013, a school year may not commence before September 1st, except:

A. For a school day with activities in which students are not required to attend or participate, such as in-service education of teachers, administrative meetings, parent-teacher conferences and records' days; or

B. For a school year of a school administrative unit that has requested and received from the commissioner an exemption from the provisions of this subsection because students of the school administrative unit are involved in an agricultural harvest.

SUMMARY

The bill provides that beginning with school year 2012-2013, the academic year for elementary schools, secondary schools, the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System may not begin before September 1st, except that elementary and secondary schools are exempt for school days in which students are not required to attend or participate, and school administrative units that receive an exemption from the Commissioner of Education because students of the school administrative unit are involved in an agricultural harvest are also exempt.