



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 129

H.P. 111

House of Representatives, January 20, 2011

An Act To Eliminate Dual Certification Requirements for Speech-language Pathologists

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13011, sub-§11** is enacted to read:

3 **11. Certification of license holders as speech and language clinicians.** A person
4 holding a valid license as a speech-language pathologist under Title 32, section 17301
5 meets the education and professional requirements established in rule adopted under
6 subsection 1 for certification as a speech and language clinician. For the purposes of this
7 subsection, "speech and language clinician" means an education specialist who provides
8 speech and language assessments, speech and language services for students with
9 disabilities and consultative assistance for the modification and adaptation of regular
10 education programs based on speech and language development.

11 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §17104, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 369, Pt. C, §3 and
12 affected by §5, is amended to read:

13 **2. Individual holding valid and current certificate.** An individual who holds a
14 valid and current ~~credential~~ certificate as a ~~speech-language~~ speech and language
15 clinician or a hearing clinician, issued by the Department of Education, from providing
16 services within a local educational agency or an individual employed as a speech-
17 language pathologist or audiologist by the Federal Government, if the individual performs
18 speech-language pathology or audiology services solely within the confines or under the
19 jurisdiction of the organization by which that individual is employed. The individual may,
20 without obtaining a license under this chapter, consult with or disseminate research
21 findings and other scientific information to speech-language pathologists and audiologists
22 outside the jurisdiction of the organization by which that individual is employed. The
23 individual may also offer lectures to the public for a fee, monetary or other, without being
24 licensed under this chapter. The individual may additionally elect to be subject to this
25 chapter; or

26 **Sec. 3. State Board of Education to revise rules.** The State Board of
27 Education shall revise rules adopted under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A,
28 section 13011 to be consistent with that section of this Act that enacts Title 20-A, section
29 13011, subsection 11. Revisions to Rule 05-071, Chapter 115: Certification,
30 Authorization, and Approval of Education Personnel and any other rule revisions
31 necessary to implement this Act are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter
32 375, subchapter 2-A and must be in effect no later than December 1, 2011.

33 **SUMMARY**

34 This bill requires the State Board of Education to accept a speech-language
35 pathologist licensed by the Board of Speech-language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing
36 Aid Dealing and Fitting as meeting the education and professional requirements to work
37 in schools as a speech and language clinician. It directs the State Board of Education to
38 revise its rules establishing eligibility requirements for speech and language clinicians
39 accordingly.