



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 678

H.P. 447

House of Representatives, February 16, 2023

**An Act to Require Parental Approval for Public School Employees
to Use a Name or Pronoun Other than a Child's Given Name or
Pronoun Corresponding to the Gender on the Child's Birth
Certificate**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SMITH of Palermo.
Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford and
Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, DAVIS of East Machias, HYMES of Waldo, PAUL of
Winterport, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, WHITE of
Guilford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6002-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§6002-A. Names and pronouns**

4 **1. Public school employee defined.** As used in this section, unless the context
5 otherwise indicates, "public school employee" means a teacher, staff member or
6 administrator of a public school or person contracted to perform services for a public
7 school.

8 **2. Prohibitions.** A public school employee may not:

9 A. Use a name to address or refer to a student that does not match the name listed on
10 the student's birth certificate without written permission from the student's parent or
11 legal guardian; or

12 B. Use a pronoun to address or refer to a student unless that pronoun corresponds to
13 the gender listed on the student's birth certificate without written permission from the
14 student's parent or legal guardian.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill prohibits a public school employee from using a name or pronoun to address
17 or refer to a student that does not match information provided on the student's birth
18 certificate without written permission from the student's parent or legal guardian.