



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 803

H.P. 510

House of Representatives, March 4, 2025

An Act to Address Certification Violations for School Staff

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 27, 2025. 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 "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CROCKETT of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §13003-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§13003-A. Certification violations**

4 The department and school administrative units shall address violations of certification
5 requirements in this chapter and in chapter 502 in accordance with this section.

6 **1. Notification to superintendent.** Within 30 days of learning of a certification
7 violation, the department shall notify the superintendent of the school administrative unit
8 that employs the teacher or educational personnel in violation of the certification
9 requirements.

10 **2. Action plan.** Within 30 days of receiving a notification of a violation under
11 subsection 1, the superintendent shall develop and notify the department of an action plan
12 to resolve the certification violation. Every 30 days thereafter until the certification
13 violation has been resolved, the superintendent shall update the department in writing on
14 the status of the certification violation and the implementation of the action plan.

15 **3. Notice to school board.** If the superintendent fails to provide the department with
16 an action plan within 30 days of receiving notification of a certification violation or fails to
17 provide written updates to the department pursuant to subsection 2, the department shall
18 notify the school board of the school administrative unit. The school board shall develop
19 and notify the department of an action plan to address the certification violation.

20 **4. Monitoring.** The department shall monitor school administrative units for
21 compliance with teacher and educational personnel certification requirements in this
22 chapter and chapter 502.

23 **5. Penalty.** If a superintendent or school board fails to comply with the requirements
24 in subsections 2 and 3, the commissioner may deduct up to \$1,000 per day from a school
25 administrative unit's state subsidy until the certification violations are resolved or the
26 school administrative unit is in compliance with the requirements in subsections 2 and 3.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill requires the Department of Education to notify a superintendent of a school
29 administrative unit of a certification violation. The superintendent, within 30 days of
30 receiving the notification, must develop and notify the department of an action plan to
31 resolve the violation and must notify the department every 30 days thereafter of the status
32 of the violation and the implementation of the action plan until the violation is resolved.
33 The bill provides that the department is required to monitor school administrative units for
34 compliance with certification requirements. The bill also establishes a penalty of up to
35 \$1,000 per day deducted from a school administrative unit's state subsidy until certification
36 violations are resolved.