



# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 1230

S.P. 435

In Senate, April 7, 2015

### An Act To Create a Digital Portal for Education

(EMERGENCY)

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Representative HUBBELL of Bar Harbor and  
Representatives: STEARNS of Guilford, TIPPING-SPITZ of Orono.



1           **5. Rules.** The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this chapter. Rules  
2 adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter  
3 375, subchapter 2-A.

4           **§19302. Digital texts and online courses**

5           **1. Application.** To offer a digital text or online course through the digital portal for  
6 education, a provider shall apply to the commissioner in a form and manner prescribed by  
7 the commissioner. The application for each digital text or online course must:

8           A. Describe the digital text or online course in as much detail as required by the  
9 commissioner;

10          B. Indicate whether an instructor is provided;

11          C. Indicate the qualifications and credentials of the instructor or the developer of the  
12 digital text or online course;

13          D. Indicate the number of hours of instruction the digital text or online course  
14 requires;

15          E. Indicate whether the digital text or online course has been peer reviewed; and

16          F. Include any additional information that the commissioner may require.

17           **2. Approval.** The commissioner shall review applications received under subsection  
18 1 and may approve or reject applications for digital texts or online courses to be included  
19 in the digital portal for education.

20           **3. Catalog of digital texts and online courses.** The commissioner shall catalog  
21 each digital text or online course approved for the digital portal for education in a print or  
22 electronic medium made available publicly. The catalog must include:

23           A. The information provided under subsection 1 and any other information necessary  
24 for a school administrative unit, private school, public or private postsecondary  
25 institution or individual to decide whether to enroll in or subscribe to the digital text  
26 or online course; and

27           B. Instructions for enrolling in or subscribing to the digital text or online course,  
28 including deadlines for enrollment or subscription.

29           **§19303. Fees**

30           **1. Expenses borne by provider.** Any expense related to the installation of a digital  
31 text or online course onto the digital portal for education must be paid by the digital text  
32 or online course provider.

33           **2. Fee set by provider.** The provider of a digital text or online course shall set the  
34 fee charged for that digital text or online course offered through the digital portal for  
35 education.

