

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

H.P. 1409 - L.D. 1902

**Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Program To Encourage Climate Education in
Maine Public Schools**

Sec. 1. Commissioner of Education to establish pilot program to provide professional development grants for climate education. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Education, referred to in this resolve as "the commissioner," shall establish the Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program, referred to in this resolve as "the pilot program," to provide grants for professional development for educators on climate science and to support the preparation of courses on interdisciplinary climate education for a period of 3 years.

Sec. 2. Pilot program; administration. Resolved: That the commissioner shall administer the pilot program to assist school districts in partnering with nonprofit community-based organizations to create and implement plans to provide teacher training in next generation science standards and interdisciplinary climate education.

Sec. 3. Grant awards. Resolved: That grant awards under the pilot program must be prioritized for schools and communities historically underserved by climate science education. These schools and communities may include, but are not limited to, tribal nations, including tribal schools, migrant students, schools with high populations of students who receive free and reduced-price lunches, rural and remote schools, students in alternative learning education environments, students of color, English language learner students and students receiving special education services. When selecting and prioritizing grant recipients, the commissioner may consider how an applicant has successfully demonstrated student progress, achievement and understanding with respect to climate science standards through the provision of professional development. The commissioner shall establish standards and an application process for the professional development grants in accordance with the priorities in this section.

Sec. 4. Fund established. Resolved: That the Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund is established as a dedicated, nonlapsing fund within the Department of Education for the purpose of receiving funds from the State and other sources for the purposes of this resolve. The department may apply for and receive funds, grants or contributions from public or private sources to support the purposes of this resolve

as long as the person providing the funds, grants or contributions does not have a vested or pecuniary interest in the outcome of the pilot program. The department shall use the funds received to administer the pilot program and to award grants to support the purposes described in this resolve. At the end of the pilot program or upon distribution of all the funds, the fund is dissolved.

Sec. 5. Transfer. Resolved: That, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer \$1,094,019 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Education no later than September 1, 2022 to support the pilot program.

Sec. 6. Transfer from Liquor Operation Revenue Fund. Resolved: That, notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 6054, subsection 4 or any other provision of law to the contrary and in addition to any amount authorized by law to be transferred in fiscal year 2022-23, the Maine Municipal Bond Bank shall transfer \$800,000 by June 30, 2023 from the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund, established in Title 30-A, section 6054, subsection 1, to the Department of Education, Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account to support the pilot program.

Sec. 7. Transfer of settlement funds; fiscal year 2022-23. Resolved: That, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no later than June 30, 2023, the State Controller shall make a one-time transfer of \$200,000 from the funds received in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 203-A for antitrust enforcement and enforcement of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act to the Department of Education, Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account to support the pilot program.

Sec. 8. Annual reports. Resolved: That a recipient of a grant under the pilot program shall report to the Department of Education annually for the duration of the grant.

Sec. 9. Report to Legislature. Resolved: That, no later than January 1, 2025, the commissioner shall submit a report regarding the pilot program and make recommendations, including whether the pilot program should continue as a pilot program, be modified or become a permanent program, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. The joint standing committee may report out legislation on the subject matter of the report to the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

Sec. 10. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund N410

Initiative: Allocates one-time funds for grants to school districts to partner with nonprofit community-based organizations to create and implement plans to provide teacher training in next generation science standards and interdisciplinary climate education.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$2,000,000

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$2,000,000
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Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund N410

Initiative: Provides a base allocation to allow for the expenditure of funds in the event federal funding is received to provide grants to school districts to partner with nonprofit community-based organizations to create and implement plans to provide teacher training in next generation science standards and interdisciplinary climate education.

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$500

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$500
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Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program Fund N410

Initiative: Allocates funds for one limited-period Regional Education Representative position and related All Other to administer the Climate Education Professional Development Pilot Program effective September 1, 2022. This position ends June 30, 2025.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
Personal Services	\$0	\$85,021
All Other	\$0	\$8,998

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$94,019
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**EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	2021-22	2022-23
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FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$2,094,019

DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$2,094,519
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