



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 156

H.P. 112

House of Representatives, January 21, 2021

**An Act To Promote School Attendance by Exempting Virtual Public
Charter School and Private School Students from Immunization
Requirements**

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 19, 2021. 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 "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DRINKWATER of Milford.
Cosponsored by Representative: SAMPSON of Alfred.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §2, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is
3 amended to read:

4 **1. State responsibility for public education.** In accordance with the Constitution of
5 Maine, Article VIII, the Legislature shall enact the laws that are necessary to assure that all
6 school administrative units make suitable provisions for the support and maintenance of
7 the public schools and the education of every person within the age limitations prescribed
8 by state statutes who resides in the school administrative unit. It is the intent of the
9 Legislature that every person within the age limitations prescribed by state statutes shall be
10 provided an opportunity to receive the benefits of a free public education.

11 **Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §6355, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

12 **5. Virtual public charter schools and private schools.** The student is enrolled in or
13 attends a virtual public charter school as defined in section 2401, subsection 11 or a private
14 school.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill exempts children who are enrolled in or attend a virtual public charter school
17 or a private school from the requirement that a child must have evidence of immunization
18 to be enrolled in or attend school. The bill also provides that the Legislature is required to
19 enact laws that are necessary to assure that all school administrative units make suitable
20 provisions for the support and maintenance of public schools and the education of every
21 person within the age limits prescribed by statute who resides in the school administrative
22 unit.