



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1106

H.P. 702

House of Representatives, March 9, 2023

**An Act to Improve the Transition to Adult Services for Children
with Intellectual Disabilities**

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan.
Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and
Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, COLLAMORE of Pittsfield,
FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, JAVNER of Chester, MOONEN of Portland,
MORIARTY of Cumberland, RECKITT of South Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §7202, sub-§11**, as corrected by RR 2011, c. 1, §28, is
3 amended to read:

4 **11. Transitional services for students with disabilities.** Plan, coordinate and
5 implement services for students with disabilities who are in transition from school to
6 community in accordance with rules adopted by the department and assist in providing
7 outreach and education regarding services provided by the Department of Health and
8 Human Services pursuant to Title 34-B, section 5201, subsection 3-A. Rules adopted
9 pursuant to this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
10 subchapter 2-A; and

11 **Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §5201, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

12 **3-A. Transitional services and outreach.** Providing outreach and education
13 regarding services provided pursuant to this section and transitional services pursuant to
14 Title 20-A, section 7202, subsection 11, to a child with a disability as defined in Title 20-A,
15 section 7001, subsection 1-B receiving services in school administrative units and that
16 child's family. The department shall regularly provide educational information about
17 services available to adults receiving services under this chapter, transitional services and
18 assistance with any relevant applications for services, including services that have waiting
19 lists, to families beginning when the child receiving services in a school administrative unit
20 is 15 years of age;

21 **Sec. 3. Department of Health and Human Services liaison team.** The
22 Department of Health and Human Services shall establish a liaison team within the
23 department to provide education and outreach to children with intellectual disabilities
24 receiving services in school administrative units and those children's families regarding
25 transitional services provided under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 7202,
26 subsection 11 and services those children will be eligible for under Title 34-B, chapter 5 as
27 adults. The liaison team shall provide such education and outreach at schools and other
28 appropriate locations, meet with families and provide assistance with applications for adult
29 services that have waiting lists. Education and outreach services must be provided on a
30 regular basis at least annually.

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a liaison
33 team within the department to provide education and outreach to children with intellectual
34 disabilities receiving services at school and those children's families on transitional services
35 and services available to adults with intellectual disabilities. This team must provide
36 educational and outreach services, including assistance with applications for services with
37 waiting lists, at schools and other appropriate locations. School administrative units are
38 required to assist the liaison team with providing transitional services. Education and
39 outreach services must be provided on a regular basis, at least annually, beginning when
40 the child receiving services at school is 15 years of age.