



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2147

S.P. 865

In Senate, January 7, 2026

An Act to Provide Funding to Improve the College and Career Readiness of Certain Students in Androscoggin and Oxford Counties

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DUSON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative MURPHY of Scarborough and
Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, BICKFORD of Androscoggin, Representative: HEPLER of
Woolwich.

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

Sec. 1. University of Maine System funding for academic support and college and career preparation; use of funds. The University of Maine System shall administer the funds appropriated in section 3. The funds must be used solely to provide academic support and college and career preparation services to students at Buckfield Junior-Senior High School, Dirigo High School, Edward Little High School, Mountain Valley High School, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School and Telstar High School in Androscoggin and Oxford counties who meet the eligibility qualifications of the United States Department of Education's Upward Bound program. Services may include, but are not limited to, academic advising, tutoring in mathematics and English language arts, peer mentoring, support in applying for higher education and accessing financial aid, career exploration and planning and on-campus summer residential experiences.

Sec. 2. Report. That, by December 1, 2027, the University of Maine System shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters that includes an overview of the services provided pursuant to section 1. The report must include student outcomes such as high school grade point average, retention, graduation and postsecondary enrollment. The joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031

Initiative: Provides a one-time appropriation to the University of Maine System to provide academic support and college and career preparation services to eligible students in 6 high schools in Androscoggin and Oxford counties previously served by the University of Maine at Farmington's River Valley Upward Bound program.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$309,505
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$309,505</u>

SUMMARY

This bill provides one-time funds for the University of Maine System to provide academic support and college and career preparation services to eligible students in 6 high schools in Androscoggin and Oxford counties that previously participated in the University of Maine at Farmington's River Valley Upward Bound program. The bill requires the University of Maine System to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters by December 1, 2027 detailing the use of the funding and outcomes for participating students. The joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report.