

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Improve the Compliance and Accountability of the Child Development Services System

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §7209, sub-§1, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 662, Pt. A, §30, is amended to read:

E. The department, in consultation with regional sites, shall develop an action plan with timelines to achieve compliance with federal or state law. The department may assume temporary responsibilitiesresponsibility for operations at a regional site that fails to meet compliance requirements. The department shall report at least quarterly to the state interagency coordinating council described in 20 United States Code, Section 1441, to the state advisory panel described in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 300.167 to 300.169 and to other advisory bodies that may be appropriate about individual regional sites that are under an action plan and about individual regional sites for whose operations the department has taken temporary responsibility. These reports must describe any progress or slippage by individual regional sites in meeting compliance requirements. For an individual regional site under an action plan, the reports must describe how long the department expects the regional site to remain under an action plan. For an individual regional site for whose operation the department has taken temporary responsibility, the reports must describe when the department expects to return responsibility to the regional site.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Education to submit quarterly reports to advisory groups about Child Development Services System regional sites that are under a corrective action plan and about regional sites for whose operations the Department of Education has assumed temporary responsibility, with the reports describing any progress or slippage by individual regional sites in meeting compliance requirements. Under this bill, the Maine Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities may continue to serve as both the state interagency coordinating council and the state advisory panel.