



# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 353

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H.P. 259

House of Representatives, February 2, 2017

### **An Act To Reduce Absenteeism in Students from Kindergarten to Third Grade**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative KORNFIELD of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and  
Representatives: GOLDEN of Lewiston, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, PIERCE of Falmouth, POULIOT of Augusta, SCHNECK of Bangor, STEARNS of Guilford.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to direct the Department of Education to establish a program that  
6 provides incentives to parents or guardians of students in kindergarten to 3rd grade who  
7 are prone to absenteeism from school to encourage the parents or guardians to reduce or  
8 eliminate the absenteeism. The parent or guardian of a student who has been determined  
9 to have excessive absenteeism would be required to meet with a school administrator and  
10 social worker. Incentives may be offered, for example, cash rewards or gift cards to  
11 grocery stores. The program would be a public-private partnership, and the Department  
12 of Education would seek private or corporate partners to help provide or donate the  
13 incentives.