



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1042

S.P. 368

In Senate, March 24, 2015

Resolve, To Create the Task Force on School Leadership

(EMERGENCY)

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland and
Senator: EDGECOMB of Aroostook, Representatives: HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, MAKER of
Calais, McCLELLAN of Raymond, STEARNS of Guilford.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this resolve establishes the Task Force on School Leadership to conduct a
4 comprehensive study of excellence in school leadership; and

5 **Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that
6 the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for submission to the next
7 legislative session; and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
11 therefore, be it

12 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule
13 353, the Task Force on School Leadership, referred to in this resolve as "the task force,"
14 is established; and be it further

15 **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 19
16 members appointed as follows:

17 1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including
18 members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

19 2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
20 House, including members from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats
21 in the Legislature;

22 3. Seven members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

23 A. Three members with expertise in school leadership issues;

24 B. One member who is a secondary school principal;

25 C. One member who is an assistant principal;

26 D. One member who is a school special education director; and

27 E. One member who is a superintendent of a small rural school district;

28 4. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

29 A. Three members with expertise in school leadership issues;

30 B. One member who is an elementary school principal;

31 C. One member who holds a staff position at the Maine Principals' Association; and

32 D. One member who is a superintendent of a large urban school district; and

33 5. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee.

1 Prior to making appointments to the task force pursuant to subsections 3 and 4, the
2 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall seek nominations from the
3 Maine Principals' Association and the Maine School Superintendents Association. The
4 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall request the Maine Principals'
5 Association and the Maine School Superintendents Association to survey their members
6 for recommended nominations; and be it further

7 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate
8 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task
9 force; and be it further

10 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That all
11 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
12 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
13 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
14 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force. If 30 days or more
15 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
16 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority
17 for the task force to meet and conduct its business; and be it further

18 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall conduct a comprehensive
19 study on excellence in school leadership in prekindergarten to grade 12 public schools.
20 In performing its work, the task force shall research the various aspects of the issues
21 related to excellence in school leadership and arrange presentations by recognized experts
22 and practitioners in school leadership including an expert from a school administration
23 preparation program at the University of Maine. The task force shall develop strategies
24 to enhance the identification, recruitment, preparation, mentoring, evaluation,
25 professional development and retention of effective public school principals and other
26 public school leaders; and be it further

27 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide
28 necessary staffing services to the task force; and be it further

29 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 2, 2015, the task force
30 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
31 legislation, for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature. The
32 Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out a bill to the
33 Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

34 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
35 legislation takes effect when approved.

36 SUMMARY

37 This resolve establishes the Task Force on School Leadership to conduct a
38 comprehensive study on excellence in school leadership in prekindergarten to grade 12
39 public schools.