

125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1269

S.P. 390

In Senate, March 23, 2011

An Act To Require That the Taking of a Statewide Assessment Test for High School Seniors Be Voluntary

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

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR. Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6202, first ¶, as amended by PL 2009, c. 313, §20, is
further amended to read:

4 The commissioner shall establish a statewide assessment program to measure and 5 evaluate on a continuing basis the academic achievements of students in grades 3 to 12 on the accountability standards set forth in section 6209 and in department rules 6 implementing that section and other curricular requirements. The commissioner may 7 elect to provide for the use of alternative measures of student achievement in grades 9 to 8 9 12. This assessment applies to students in the public elementary and secondary schools 10 and in all private schools approved for tuition whose school enrollments include at least 60% publicly funded students, as determined by the previous school year's October and 11 April average enrollment. The assessment program must be adapted to meet the needs of 12 children with disabilities as defined in section 7001, subsection 1-A or other students as 13 defined under rules by the commissioner. The assessment program and any alternative 14 measure approved by the commissioner must be voluntary for students in grade 12. 15

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SUMMARY

17 This bill allows students in grade 12 to choose to not take an assessment test 18 administered by their school, including the preliminary scholastic assessment test, or 19 PSAT, or the scholastic assessment test, or SAT.