130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document	**No. 742**
H.P. 547	House of Representatives, March 5, 2021

Resolve, To Track Youth Mental Health during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency by Ensuring the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey Is Conducted during the 2020-2021 School Year

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FECTEAU of Augusta.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, Senator: WOODSOME of York.

Printed on recycled paper

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

Whereas, the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey, a statewide survey administered by the Department of Education in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services, is conducted in February of odd-numbered years and quantifies the health-related behaviors and attitudes of 5th graders through 12 graders; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed the school learning environment for students; and

Whereas, while it may currently be more difficult to conduct the survey, it is vitally important that the survey continue and be administered more frequently in order to track youth mental health as students respond to changing conditions; and

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

Sec. 1. Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey conducted. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education shall ensure that the survey referred to as the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey is conducted during the 2020-2021 school year in addition to the planned survey in the 2021-2022 school year in order to track youth mental health during the public health emergency caused by coronavirus disease, or COVID-19.

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

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education to ensure that the survey referred to as the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey is conducted during the 2020-2021 school year in addition to the planned survey in the 2021-2022 school year in order to track youth mental health during the COVID-19 public health emergency.