



STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

10 January 2014

The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I hereby veto LD 963 "An Act To Expand Access to Early Postsecondary Education."

This bill was passed at the end of the first regular session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature with my support and support of my Department of Education. I agree with its aim to allow high school students to take college-level courses and also to allow homeschool students to benefit. The Appropriations Committee, however, did not appropriate the additional funds needed to cover the costs of the program. Since the funding to cover the tuition for students taking advantage of this program is not available, there is no way for the executive branch to carry out this law as written and passed.

To remedy this situation, I will resubmit this same bill, along with the required funding, to be reconsidered in this current legislative session in the hope that it will be passed and funded.

For these reasons, I return LD 963 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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