

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 1033 AN ACT TO MANDATE A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POULIOT  
RACINE  
PERKINS  
DUTREMBLE

ONTP HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Indef. PP  
GOV

SUMMARY:

Present statutes allow school boards to require teachers to begin the first class of each school day with a "period of silence." This bill would have required school boards to establish a "period of silence" at the start of each school day.

**LD:** **1048** AN ACT TO CLARIFY AND IMPROVE THE LAWS ON  
EDUCATION IN THE UNORGANIZED TERRITORY

BROWN L  
CROUSE  
ROBERTS  
LAWRENCE

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV

PUBLIC  
CH # 490

S-182	CA		H	S
S-234	CA	BROWN L	H	S
S-321	CA	PEARSON		
S-365	CA	PEARSON	H	S

SUMMARY:

The purpose of the bill was to assemble in one place the laws governing the provision of elementary and secondary school programs in the unorganized territory. Where current law was ambiguous, the bill clarifies that the statutory provisions governing the provision of education in school administrative units also apply to the unorganized territory. The original bill clarified that there was one "Unorganized Territory School Fund" rather than one "School Fund" and one "Capital Working Fund." The original 2-fund structure was restored by an amendment. The bill also provides for the establishment of "a capital reserve account for future construction and renovations." Finally, it proposed the establishment of an "Unorganized Territory School Contingency Fund" not to exceed 3% of the budget. This Contingency Fund was the subject of much debate and finally removed by a Senate Amendment.

The bill expanded school services by including the provision of services to preschool handicapped students.

CA-S-182: The Committee Amendment proposed allowing school

administrative units which receive tuition students from the unorganized territories to charge up to 110% of the State per student average, other units can only charge up to the State average.

S-234: This Senate Amendment added an appropriation for this cost which will be recovered by the property tax assessed in the unorganized territory.

S-365: This amendment goes back to the present language of calling the funds the "Unorganized Territory School and Capital Working Funds."

LD: 1110 AN ACT TO CONFORM EDUCATION LAWS TO THE  
PERSONNEL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

GAUVREAU  
BOST  
OGARA  
LAWRENCE

LV-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

The bill would have given the Commissioner of Education the authority to recommend to the State Board candidates for the directors and assistant directors at the Vocational-Technical Institutes (VTIs). These directors and assistant directors would then serve at the joint pleasure of the commissioner and the state board.

This would have been almost the same as the present practice except that the VTI directors and their staff presently have considerable say in reviewing and recommending candidates for the position of assistant director.

LD: 1126 AN ACT TO AMEND THE EDUCATION LAW

MARTIN J

LV-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

The bill would have made decisions of superintendents which are not subject to control of the local school board reviewable by the Commissioner of Education upon a petition of 10% of the voters in the unit.