

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF SCHOOL
244 BUSES.

INDEF. PP

Sponsor: TWITCHELL, Walker, Jackson
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
S-4 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: The bill increases the limit on school bus purchases from \$5 million to \$7 million. The committee amendment adds an appropriations section.

LD AN ACT TO CHANGE THE PROCESS OF SELECTING THE
246 COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL
SERVICES.

ONTP

Sponsor: ESTES
Committee Report: ONTP

SUMMARY: This bill would have provided for appointment of the Commissioner of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services by the State Board of Education with input from the Governor. The commissioner would have served a 3-year term with annual performance reviews by the state board.

The new draft, LD 1649, represents the minority report of the committee. The new draft is similar to the original bill but provides for appointment of the commissioner by the Governor subject to approval by the state board.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO THE ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL
280 ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS.

LVWD

Sponsor: ESTES, Matthews K, Soucy
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would have allowed individual municipalities to form a School Administrative District and to thereby submit the school budget to the voters in a referendum election, rather than to the town council, for approval. Proponents argued that such an option would protect the education budget and provide for timely adoption which doesn't always occur when the council must approve the budget. Opponents argued that elected councillors are in the best position to balance the needs and resources of the whole community and that the proposal could result in delays if the voters defeat the proposed budget. In the end, the committee felt the proposal left too many questions unanswered.