

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

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Committee Amendment "A" further clarifies the powers and duties of a public school building committee by requiring that the committee's powers and duties be determined at the time the committee is established. It also clarifies that powers and duties not assigned to the building committee or another entity remain with the school board.

LD 593 An Act Related to Parenting Education ONTP

SPONSOR(S) HANDY	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill would have required school administrative units to offer an elective parenting education course beginning in the fall of 1994. Under the bill, the Department of Education would have been required to develop a model curriculum for the course that could be adapted by school administrative units to meet local needs. The course would have been taught by a qualified teacher already employed in local schools.

LD 628 An Act Concerning School Construction PUBLIC 324

SPONSOR(S) TITCOMB	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED S-206
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SUMMARY

The original bill provided incentives to school districts undergoing a construction project to be cost effective by allowing the Department of Education to establish an approved list of expenses that the district could use anywhere within the district where the need was greatest. The provision was aimed at discouraging the purchase of additional approved equipment merely to use up the balance of construction funding.

Committee Amendment "A" replaces the bill. The amendment clarifies that the Director of the Bureau of General Services may refuse to release plans and specifications to a contractor for the purpose of bidding on a public works project if, in the opinion of the director, the contractor has not completed prior construction projects in a timely manner or if the contractor has a history of inability to complete similar projects.

The amendment directs the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules for approval of lease costs for school buildings and for determining what portion of the costs may be eligible for state subsidy. The amendment also directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules for approving movable equipment costs for school construction projects.

**LD 639 An Act to Make Corrections to the Salary Reductions
Authorized in Public Law 1991, Chapter 780, Part III PUBLIC 243
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) O'DEA	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED S-162
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SUMMARY

This bill corrects an inconsistency in the 3% and 2% salary reductions for certain employees of the University of Maine System. This bill provides similar treatment for these employees in fiscal year 1992-93 as had been provided in fiscal year 1991-92.

The original bill unintentionally included employees of the Maine Maritime Academy covered by a collective bargaining agreement in the group of employees to be exempted from salary adjustments mandated by Public Law 1991, chapter 780. The exemption would have resulted in unbudgeted costs to the Maine Maritime Academy of \$16,000.

Committee Amendment "A" excludes represented employees of the Maine Maritime Academy from the list of employees who are exempted from the provisions of Public Law 1991, chapter 780.

LD 640 An Act to Provide Funding for School Bus Purchases ONTP

SPONSOR(S) CLEVELAND	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

The distribution of General Purpose Aid for Local Schools for fiscal year 1992-93, as established in Public Law 1991, chapter 802, provided that the state subsidy for fiscal year 1992-93 be the same as that for fiscal year 1991-92 and did not specify school bus purchase reimbursements as an exception.

This bill would have provided the necessary appropriation to reimburse school units the appropriate state share for school buses purchased in fiscal year 1991-92 net of any reimbursements received from prior year school bus purchases.

LD 660 An Act to Ensure Flat Funding for Local School Units ONTP

SPONSOR(S) COFFMAN	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill would have required the State to provide the same level of state subsidy to each school unit for fiscal year 1993-94 as the State provided for fiscal year 1992-93.

**LD 666 An Act to Facilitate the Conduct of Business of the Maine Technical College System PUBLIC 111
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) GWADOSKY	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED H-164
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SUMMARY

This bill increases from 13 to 16 the number of Trustees of the Maine Technical College System.

Committee Amendment "A" adds a fiscal note to the bill.