

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION

JULY 1993

**Staff:**  
*Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*

**MEMBERS:**

*\*Sen. John J. O'Dea  
Sen. Mark W. Lawrence  
Sen. Jane A. Amero*

*\*Rep. Elizabeth H. Mitchell  
Rep. James V. Oliver  
Rep. Sophia Douglass Pfeiffer  
Rep. Stephen P. Simonds  
Rep. Peter A. Cloutier  
Rep. Elizabeth J. Pinette  
Rep. Kathleen Stevens  
Rep. Omar P. Norton  
Rep. Omar Wendy L. Ault  
Rep. Mary E. Small*

*\*Denotes Chair*

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR  
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
JULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
MARION HYLAN BARR  
JON CLARK  
LISA COPENHAVER  
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN  
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS  
JILL IPPOLITI



JOHN B. KNOX  
ROY W. LENARDSON  
PATRICK NORTON  
JANE ORBETON  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
PAUL J. SAUCIER

JOHN G. KELLEY, RESEARCHER  
DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER  
CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107/135  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL: (207) 287-1670  
FAX (207) 287-1275

**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&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 &amp; 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.

4693NRG

**SPONSOR(S)**  
SKOGLUND  
PINGREE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a new method of determining a municipality's ability to support education costs.

Under the current school funding statute, a municipality's state subsidy for education costs is tied to the number of pupils in the municipality and the state valuation of property. This bill replaces state valuation of property with a new measure of wealth defined as median municipal household income times the number of households in the municipality divided by the percent of total municipal property tax assessed on residential property. The income-based model is designed to lessen reliance on property value as a measure of ability to pay.

The bill requires that the State fund 100% of all special education tuition and costs for students placed out of district to receive education services. The bill also increases the minimum state allocation to a school unit from 5% to 10% of the foundation per pupil operating rate times the number of pupils in the unit.

**LD 939 An Act to Provide Equitable School Funding**

CARRIED OVER

**SPONSOR(S)**  
DUTREMBLE D  
BRANNIGAN  
ROWE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the laws governing the school funding formula to require that a municipality's wealth or ability to pay be calculated by using median household income, adjusted to reflect the cost of living in the area and the average person's existing tax effort as measured by the property taxes and income taxes that they pay.

This bill also sets a maximum of 70% on the amount of state funding that a school unit can receive and requires that state aid fund only basic education programs, as is done in other states.

**LD 1000 An Act to Eliminate the Position and Office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
COFFMAN  
BAILEY H

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have eliminated the position and office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System. To accomplish this, the bill:

1. Removes the chancellor from the list of ex officio corporators of the Board of Directors of the Maine Development Foundation;
2. Repeals the provision requiring the chancellor to present an address on the state of the University of Maine System to the Legislature;