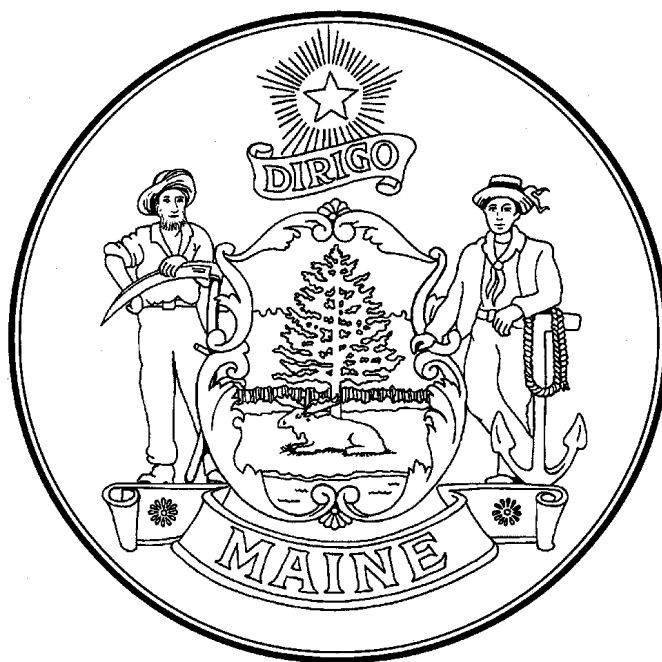


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

MAY 1998

MEMBERS:

Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton, Chair

Sen. Mary R. Cathcart

Sen. Mary E. Small

Rep. Shirley K. Richard, Chair

Rep. Michael F. Brennan

Rep. Mabel J. Desmond

Rep. James G. Skoglund

Rep. Elizabeth Watson

Rep. Christina L. Baker

Rep. Alvin L. Barth, Jr.

Rep. Rodney W. McElroy

Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman

Rep. Irvin G. Belanger

Staff:

Phillip D. McCarthy, Ed.D., Legislative Analyst

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Maine State Legislature
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ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 1998

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

CON RES XXX..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
INDEF PP.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP ND..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OTP ND/NT..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX.....Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED.....Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

LD 2063**An Act to Create the Partnership to Rebuild Maine's Schools****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
MITCHELL E
BENNETT

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2063 was referred jointly to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. This bill proposed to establish the School Repair Revolving Loan Fund. The fund would be administered by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to provide interest-free loans to school administrative units to make necessary repairs to school buildings throughout the State.

LD 2106**An Act to Provide Degree-granting Authority to the SALT Center for Documentary Field Studies****ONTP**

Sponsor(s)
LAWRENCE

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2106 proposed to provide the SALT Center for Documentary Field Studies in Portland, Maine with degree-granting authority.

LD 2129**Resolve, to Approve a Maine Technical College System Lease with the South Portland Housing Authority****RESOLVE 95**

Sponsor(s)
MUSE
AMERO

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-836

LD 2129 proposed to authorize the Maine Technical College System and the South Portland Housing Authority, its designee or its authorized entity, to enter into a 40-year lease whereby the South Portland Housing Authority would lease from the Maine Technical College System approximately three and one-half acres of property adjacent to the Southern Maine Technical College campus for purposes of constructing and providing low-income and moderate-income, elder-care housing for the citizens of Maine.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-836) proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 95 authorizes the Maine Technical College System and the South Portland Housing Authority, its designee or its authorized entity, to enter into a 40-year lease whereby the South Portland Housing Authority will lease from the Maine Technical College System approximately three and one-half acres of property adjacent to the Southern Maine Technical College campus for purposes of constructing and providing low-income and moderate-income, elder-care housing for the citizens of Maine.