

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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

**JULY 1999**

***MEMBERS:***

***Sen. Georgette B. Berube, Chair***

***Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.***

***Sen. Mary E. Small***

***Rep. Michael F. Brennan, Chair***

***Rep. Shirley K. Richard***

***Rep. Mabel J. Desmond***

***Rep. James G. Skoglund***

***Rep. Elizabeth Watson***

***Rep. Christina L. Baker***

***Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman.***

***Rep. Irvin G. Belanger***

***Rep. Mary Black Andrews***

***Rep. Carol Weston***

***Staff:***

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees**  
**August 1999**

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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](http://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:

*CARRIED OVER*.....Bill carried over to Second Regular Session  
*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  
*ENACTMENT FAILED*..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died  
*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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

## Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 24**                      **An Act to Change the Name of the "Department of Education" to the "Department of Schooling"**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERKINS	ONTP      MAJ OTP      MIN	

LD 24 proposed to change the name of the Department of Education to the Department of Schooling.

**LD 59**                      **An Act to Change the Date a Child Starts School**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNE	ONTP	

LD 59 proposed to allow a child who has reached age five by July 1st, rather than by October 15th as under current law, to enroll in school. As under current law, this bill proposed to leave the decision of appropriate grade placement to each school administrative unit.

**LD 90**                      **An Act to Establish the Endowment Incentive Fund**                      **PUBLIC 511**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAKER CATHCART	OTP-AM	H-47 S-399   MICHAUD

LD 90 proposed to establish the Endowment Incentive Fund for the University of Maine System, the Maine Technical College System and the Maine Maritime Academy to benefit academic purposes at the various campuses of Maine's publicly-assisted postsecondary education institutions. The bill would encourage private fund raising at Maine's publicly-assisted postsecondary institutions by allowing campus donors to multiply the value of their gifts through state matching funds.

The bill proposed to establish the following requirements.

1. The Endowment Incentive Fund would be established as a nonlapsing fund. The State Treasurer would be responsible for the custodial care of the fund and may deposit state funds pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 135; the Treasurer of State would also be responsible for disbursement of the Endowment Incentive Fund upon certification that established criteria are met.
2. Interest earned on the investment of the Endowment Incentive Fund would be credited to the respective publicly-assisted postsecondary institution or its qualified institutionally-related foundation.
3. For the administration of the Endowment Incentive Fund, "academic purposes" would be defined as scholarships, professorships or other endowed faculty positions, the repair of classrooms and laboratories and the acquisition of equipment for classrooms and laboratories.