

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

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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).

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.

also require a demonstration of interest from students if it offers a specific curriculum or teaching methodology.

- 4. It would establish that charter schools may not be affiliated with religious institutions and must be nonsectarian in their programs, practices and policies.
- 5. It would require funding for charter schools to be paid directly by the State in an amount equal to the average amount per pupil spent statewide. Approved special education costs incurred beyond that amount would be paid by the student's resident school administrative unit.

The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session.

LD 2033 **An Act to Provide the Opportunity for Students from All Parts of the State to Benefit from funding for Higher Education** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LONGLY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2033 proposed to require that at least 1/32 of the funds appropriated for high school students taking postsecondary courses under the Post-secondary Enrollment Options Act be distributed within each county for students from that county.

LD 2050 **An Act to Permit the Establishment of the Kennebec Valley Center for Arts Education** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WATSON DAGGETT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2050 proposed to permit the University of Maine at Augusta to oversee the establishment of the Kennebec Valley Center for Arts Education, a regional and cooperative-based charter school and other such charter schools.

LD 2053 **An Act to Reimburse Program Costs to School Districts at 100% of Actual Cost** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MAILHOT DOUGLASS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2053 proposed to require that school administrative units receive state subsidy for the following program costs: early childhood education program costs, special education costs, vocational education costs, transportation operating costs and bus purchase costs. This bill proposed to ensure that the State's subsidy through the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program includes 100% of the state share of actual local program costs incurred by school administrative units by providing an additional amount of General Fund appropriations for the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program to fully fund the state share of actual local program costs.