

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 2000

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Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.

Sen. Mary E. Small

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

LD 2647

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$25,550,000 to Renovate Teaching Laboratories, Classrooms and Dormitories of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Maine technical College System and the University of Maine System

ONTP

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

LD 2647 was referred to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and proposed a bond issue in the amount of \$25,550,000, that would have been used to renovate higher education laboratories, classrooms and dormitories of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Maine Technical College System and the University of Maine System. While this bill failed to be enacted, the supplemental appropriations bill included \$22,550,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 to renovate higher education laboratories, classrooms and dormitories of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Maine Technical College System and the University of Maine System (see Public Law 1999, chapter 731, part A, section A-1).

LD 2657

An Act to Clarify the Tuition Waiver Program for Persons Who Resided in Foster Care as Children

PUBLIC 774

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		H-1073 BRENNAN

LD 2657 proposed to eliminate the unmet need provisions of the tuition waiver program for foster children. The bill also proposed to clarify that 25 new foster children are eligible for a tuition waiver in each year.

House Amendment "A" (H-1073) proposed to require that the state postsecondary educational institutions affiliated with the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Technical College System shall absorb the reduction in tuition revenues that results from providing a tuition waiver to an eligible person under the tuition waiver program for students who resided in foster care as children. The amendment also proposed to specify that these institutions may not request additional General Fund appropriations from the Legislature to offset the reduction in tuition revenues.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 774 eliminates the unmet need provisions of the tuition waiver program for foster children and clarifies that 25 new foster children are eligible for a tuition waiver in each year. The law also requires that the state postsecondary educational institutions affiliated with the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Technical College System shall absorb the reduction in tuition revenues that results from providing a tuition waiver to an eligible person under the tuition waiver program for students who resided in foster care as children. The law further specifies that these institutions may not request additional General Fund appropriations from the Legislature to offset the reduction in tuition revenues.