

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

July 2003

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Members:

*Sen. Neria R. Douglass, Chair
Sen. Michael F. Brennan
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

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Rep. Jacqueline Norton
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Rep. Mary Ellen Ledwin
Rep. Gerald M. Davis*

Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i>	<i>Bills carried over to the 2nd Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

David C. Elliott, Director
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Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 763 **Resolve, Directing the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation To Establish a Degree Program for Denturism** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> STANLEY DUPREY G		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 763 proposed to direct the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to establish a degree program for denturism.

LD 765 **An Act To Prevent Truancy** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 765 proposed to authorize the Secretary of State to suspend the driver's license or driving privileges of a student who is determined "habitually truant."

LD 822 **An Act To Provide Greater Protection for School Children** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KANE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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Current law requires that school employees or service providers under contract with a school administrative unit must undergo a criminal history record check. However, current statutes do not require schools to conduct an investigation or verification of a volunteer driver's driving, record or criminal history. LD 822 proposed to require superintendents of a school administrative unit or a school union to complete a background check on each driver who transports students on behalf of the school administrative unit, including verification of the driver's driving record, criminal history and other relevant information.

LD 825 **An Act To Establish a Special Education Secondary School Diploma** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GLYNN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 825 proposed to direct the Department of Education to authorize special education secondary school diplomas.