

# 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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# 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](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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i> .....	<i>Bills carried over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 1069**

**Resolve, Directing the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council To  
Examine Available Funding for Local Historical Societies**

**RESOLVE 18**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THOMPSON MAYO	OTP-AM	H-133

LD 1069 proposed to direct the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to review and study all available funding sources to fund projects for local historical societies to document and preserve the local histories throughout the State. It also proposed to direct the Commission to submit a report with its findings and any necessary implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by December 15, 2003.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-133)** proposed to direct the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council instead of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to review and study all available funding sources to fund projects for local historical societies to document and preserve the local histories throughout the State. It also proposed to direct the Council to submit a report with its findings and any necessary implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by December 15, 2003.

***Enacted Law Summary***

Resolve 2003, chapter 18 directs the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council to review and study all available funding sources to fund projects for local historical societies to document and preserve the local histories throughout the State. It also directs the Council to submit a report with its findings and any necessary implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by December 15, 2003.

**LD 1082**

**An Act Regarding Habitual Truants**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

LD 1082 proposes to amend the current law that addresses the procedures that local school units must take when dealing with students who are habitually truant. It would require the superintendent to send a notice to the parent of a truant informing the parent that the child is truant and is required by law to attend school. The bill also proposes to require the superintendent to report the truancy of a child to the local law enforcement agency if a parent has not complied with the notice. The bill further proposes to make it a Class E crime if a parent fails to enroll a child in school or fails to require the child to regularly attend school. The bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.