

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).

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 1103 **An Act To Protect Children from Indecent Material on the Internet** **ONTP**

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

LD 1103 proposed to prohibit an elementary or secondary school from allowing a person under 18 years of age to access obscene or pornographic materials through the use of that school's computer. This bill also proposed to direct the Department of Education to adopt rules to implement this bill.

LD 1112 **An Act To Restore an Annual Adjustment for Costs to the School Funding Formula** **ONTP**

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

LD 1112 proposed to restore to the school funding formula an annual adjustment to reflect variations in costs. The School Finance Act of 1995 used to factor in the school funding formula an adjustment to reflect variations in regional costs. Public Law 1999, chapter 401, Part GG, section 5 eliminated this adjustment.

LD 1116 **An Act Regarding University of Maine System Boards of Visitors** **P & S 14**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNLAP	OTP-AM	H-138

LD 1116 proposed to require each board of visitors for each of the 7 universities in the University of Maine System to submit an annual report of its activities to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System. Under this proposed bill, the Board of Trustees would be required to submit a copy of the annual report of each board of visitors to the Legislature and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-138) proposed to clarify that the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System is required to submit a copy of the annual report of each board of visitors to the Legislature and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters annually in January as part of the report required from the board of trustees in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10902-A.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 14 requires that each board of visitors for each of the 7 universities in the University of Maine System must submit an annual report of its activities to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System. The law also requires that the Board of Trustees submit a copy of the annual report of each board of visitors to the Legislature and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters annually in January as part of the report required from the Board of Trustees under existing law.