

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

July 2006

Members:

Sen. Elizabeth H. Mitchell, Chair

Sen. Elizabeth M. Schneider

Sen. Karl W. Turner

Rep. Jacqueline R. Norton, Chair

Rep. Edward D. Finch

Rep. Elaine Makas

Rep. Emily Ann Cain

Rep. Connie Goldman

Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman

Rep. Gerald M. Davis

Rep. Peter Edgecomb

Rep. Scott E. Lansley

Rep. Barbara E. Merrill

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Maine State Legislature



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122nd Maine Legislature Second 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 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/billsumm.htm).

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
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX.....	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED (Pocket Veto).....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment “A” (S-63) proposed to provide that the appropriation of funds to increase the state subsidy for the adult education program within the Department of Education would be reduced from 6% per year in the bill to 4% per year in fiscal years 2005-06 and 2006-07.

This bill and its adopted amendments were carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S.P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

While this bill was indefinitely postponed, the substance of the bill was addressed through a supplemental budget bill initiative, enacted as part of Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part A, Section A-1, that provided funding to partially offset the deappropriation in Public Law 2005, chapter 12, Part XX to the adult education program.

LD 200 **An Act To Improve Teaching and Learning Conditions in Maine Schools** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> NORTON TURNER		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 200, which was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to alleviate burdens, caused by the workloads created because teachers have to satisfy school reform mandates, by enhancing teaching and learning conditions in Maine schools.

LD 405 **Resolve, To Establish an Education Pilot Program for Registered Nurses** **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARTIN PERRY A		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-100
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LD 405 proposed to require the President of the Maine Community College System to establish a pilot program for the education of registered nurses who are interested in employment in long-term care. The pilot program would be operated at 4 community college locations across the State and would be funded equally from the Health Care Training Fund and from private donations.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-100) proposed to revise the pilot program proposed in the resolve to require the Maine Community College System to establish a pilot program for the education of individuals who are interested in enrolling as candidates in an entry-level nursing preparation program and who have also expressed the goal of attaining a license as a registered nurse. The proposed pilot program could also provide education for entry-level candidates for the nursing preparation program who are interested in future employment in long-term care as registered nurses. The proposed pilot program would be operated at 2 community college locations in the State. The amendment also proposed to require that a scholarship fund be established with private donations to provide eligible students with funds to participate in this pilot program and proposed to provide that the Maine Health Care Association and the Maine Community College System work together to provide leadership for raising these scholarship funds.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill and its adopted amendments were carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S.P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

While this bill was indefinitely postponed, the substance of the bill was addressed through supplemental budget bill initiatives, that were enacted as part of Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part A, Section A-1, that appropriated \$375,000 to the Maine Community College System and \$375,000 to the University of Maine System in fiscal year 2006-07, to increase the availability of education opportunities in nursing to address the shortage of nurses in the State.

LD 979

An Act To Fund Youth Mentoring Programs

PUBLIC 639

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FISCHER EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-332 S-682 ROTUNDO

LD 979 proposed to establish the Maine Mentoring Partnership Grant Program administered by the Department of Education to provide grants to eligible entities for mentoring programs that provide guidance, support and encouragement to young people through the development of structured relationships. As proposed, grants would range from \$1,000 to \$75,000, depending on financial need.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-332) proposed to incorporate a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment “A” (S-682) proposed to change the program to which funds would be appropriated for the Maine Mentoring Partnership Grant Program, proposed to eliminate the appropriation in fiscal year 2005-06, and proposed to reduce the amount of a one-time appropriation in fiscal year 2006-07.

This bill and its adopted amendments were carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S.P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 639 establishes the Maine Mentoring Partnership Grant Program administered by the Department of Education through the Jobs for Maine's Graduates program to provide grants to eligible entities for mentoring programs that provide guidance, support and encouragement to young people through the development of structured relationships. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$75,000, depending on financial need. The law also provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$25,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 to the Jobs for Maine's Graduates program.