

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2011

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND  
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*CARRIED OVER* ..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature  
*CON RES XXX*..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses  
*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE* ..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT* ..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY* ..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public Law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

*Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

**LD 389**     **An Act To Exempt Certain Necessary School Auxiliary Buildings for  
New Mechanical Systems from Referendum Requirements**

**MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WINTLE THOMAS	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill exempts the construction of a school's auxiliary building for the housing of a mechanical system from the public referendum requirement.

**LD 391**     **An Act Concerning Models for Teacher and Principal Evaluations**

**PUBLIC 36**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRANG BURGESS ALFOND	OTP-AM	H-52

This bill provides that the laws that require the Department of Education to establish models for the evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals do not prevent a school administrative unit from developing and adopting its own models for teacher and principal evaluation. It also provides that the stakeholder group convened by the Commissioner of Education to review models for the evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals is charged with reviewing only those models established by the Department of Education.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-52)**

This amendment clarifies the role of the Department of Education in regard to teacher and principal evaluation models. The department shall propose, rather than establish, models for evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals. The amendment clarifies the role of the stakeholder group by indicating that approval of a model is by a majority vote of the group. The amendment also removes the ending date originally established for the stakeholder group to review models proposed by the department.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 36 provides that the laws that require the Department of Education to propose models for the evaluation of the professional performance of teachers and principals do not prevent a school administrative unit from developing and adopting its own models for teacher and principal evaluation. It also provides that the stakeholder group convened by the Commissioner of Education to review models for the evaluation of professional performance of teachers and principals is charged with reviewing only those models established by the Department of Education.