

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2013

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126th 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 126th Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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

This bill establishes a moratorium on the authorization of new public charter schools until all of the following conditions are met:

1. The State provides at least 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as defined by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; and

2. The State Board of Education finds that:

A. The research on public charter schools in the United States clearly and incontrovertibly demonstrates that public charter schools reliably improve education for students in a sustainable manner without increasing the cost to the statewide public education system and with no adverse effect on those students who are unable to attend a public charter school;

B. The existing public charter schools in Maine have improved education for students in a sustainable manner without increasing the cost to the statewide public education system and with no adverse effect on those students who are unable to attend a public charter school;

C. There is a clear and demonstrable need for additional public charter schools in Maine; and

D. The existing kindergarten to grade 12 public school facilities in Maine are entirely safe and conducive to learning.

LD 1502 An Act To Expand Student Access to Certain Career Information and Opportunities

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE CUSHING	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires school boards to allow implementation of the armed services vocational aptitude battery career exploration program developed by the United States Department of Defense. The program consists of aptitude testing, completion of a student interest inventory and use of career exploration guides and activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-312)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1503 An Act To Ensure Student Access to Postsecondary Military Options

**DIED BETWEEN
HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE CUSHING	ONTP OTP-AM	H-311 S-365 HILL

This bill requires publicly supported secondary schools and secondary public charter schools to provide uniformed recruiters for the United States Armed Forces or the Maine National Guard the same access to secondary school students as other postsecondary and career recruiters.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (H-311)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, incorporates a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-365)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

LD 1505 An Act Regarding Insured Value Factor Payments for Public Tuition Students Attending a Private School

PUBLIC 418

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	OTP-AM	S-293

This bill increases the insured value factor portion of the tuition rate that a private school may charge for public tuition students to 6% of the tuition rate in school year 2013-2014, to 8% of the tuition rate in school year 2014-2015 and to 10% of the tuition rate beginning in school year 2015-2016, which was the rate permitted prior to school year 2008-2009.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-293)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to increase the insured value factor portion of the tuition rate that a private school may charge for public tuition students to 6% of the tuition rate in school year 2014-2015. The amendment provides that, in subsequent school years, the insured value factor payment will be adjusted by a percentage equal to the change in the State's share of the total cost of funding education, but may not be less than 6% and not more than 10% of the tuition rate, unless the school administrative unit votes to pay an insured value factor that exceeds the amount permitted by no more than 5% of the private school's tuition rate.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 418 increases the insured value factor portion of the tuition rate that a private school may charge for public tuition students to 6% of the tuition rate in school year 2014-2015. The law provides that, in subsequent school years, the insured value factor payment will be adjusted by a percentage equal to the change in the State's share of the total cost of funding education, but may not be less than 6% and not more than 10% of the tuition rate, unless the school administrative unit votes to pay an insured value factor that exceeds the amount permitted by no more than 5% of the private school's tuition rate.

LD 1510 An Act To Ensure Statewide School Accountability and Improvement

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P LANGLEY	ONTP OTP-AM	

Under current federal law, a struggling school is only identified and given help to improve if the school is funded under Title I of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. This bill creates a process for the Commissioner of Education to hold all schools accountable for student achievement and to work with schools to improve, regardless of whether they are so-called Title I schools.