

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<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**

August 2017

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> 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 128<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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

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 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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*

C. Award grants to adult education programs to increase English-language acquisition instruction in communities experiencing an increase in immigrant populations; and

4. It expands the Welcome Center Initiative to the City of Lewiston's adult education program to attract, educate and retain in employment foreign-trained workers residing in Androscoggin County, patterned after the New Mainers Welcome Center in Portland.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-195)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and removes the Office of New Mainers and the Office of New Mainers Advisory Committee from the bill and removes all references to both offices. It adds proposed welcome centers to the purpose for which adult education program grants may be given. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was reported out of committee and then recommitted to the committee; it was then carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

This amendment was not adopted.

### **LD 1528      An Act To Validate Certain Proceedings Authorizing the Issuance of      INDEF PP Bonds and Notes of Regional School Unit No. 5**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARSON B GIDEON S		

This bill was not referred to committee.

The bill validates the referendum votes of Regional School Unit No. 5 conducted on January 10, 2017 to authorize gifts and other funding sources, including bonds, for a track and field project. Regional School Unit No. 5 conducted a public hearing on December 7, 2016, prior to that referendum. The regional school unit provided notification of the public hearing by posting a notice of public hearing in each town for 6 days prior to the hearing, instead of seven days prior to the public hearing as required by law, which created a legal technicality that affects the marketability of the bonds to be issued for the track and field project in Regional School Unit No. 5.

### **LD 1531      An Act To Amend Education Statutes      Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY B STEWART H	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill:

1. Specifies that the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering does not count towards the limit of 10 public charter schools set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2405, subsection 9;
2. Specifies that the Maine Charter School Commission is responsible for the oversight of the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering;

*Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

- 3. Provides that state funding for the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering must be provided using the method established for public charter schools that are authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission;
- 4. Replaces the so-called declining enrollment adjustment to the calculation of essential programs and services;
- 5. Repeals the authority of the Commissioner of Education to expend and disburse funds for school improvement and support, implementation of performance evaluation and professional growth systems and learning results implementation, assessment and accountability;
- 6. Provides funding and authority for the commissioner to expend and disburse funds through a competitive grant process to establish pilot programs that would benefit students in public schools in the fields of science, computer science, technology, engineering and mathematics;
- 7. Provides funding and authority for the commissioner to expend and disburse funds to provide training for identification and intervention services for children with autism; and
- 8. Corrects cross-references.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-185)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment replaces the appropriations and allocations section in the bill.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1555 An Act To Facilitate a Statewide Teacher Contract**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TIMBERLAKE J	ONTP	

This bill allows a public employer of teachers to designate the State as its representative in collective bargaining negotiations for the purpose of encouraging consistent teacher contracts statewide.

**LD 1569 An Act To Revise Certification Statutes for Educational Personnel**

**PUBLIC 235**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KORNFIELD T	OTP-AM	H-515

This bill amends the laws governing the credentialing process for teachers, educational specialists and administrators, and replaces references to the certification, authorization and approval of teachers and educational personnel with references to credentialing teachers and educational personnel.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-515)**

This amendment amends the bill's proposals related to the laws governing the credentialing process for teachers, educational specialists and administrators. The amendment also provides a process for the certification of educational technicians.

**Enacted Law Summary**