

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

EDUCATION

LD AN ACT TO EXTEND THE TEACHERS' BONUS PROVISIONS LVWD
116 TO CERTAIN EXCLUDED SCHOOLS.

Sponsor: SEAVEY, Connolly
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would have added 3 private schools - Sweetser Children's Home School, Spurwink School and Homestead School - to the definition of "qualifying schools" under the Educational Reform Act of 1984. That change would have made teachers at those schools eligible (retroactively) for recognition grant payments and the schools themselves eligible for block grant payments to be used for teachers compensation purposes. After discussing the history of the current law and the potential cost of opening up the definition of qualifying schools to these (and probably many other) private schools, the committee decided not to change the definition. Currently, qualifying schools are defined as public schools, state operated schools and private schools approved for tuition purposes with at least 60% public school students enrolled (10 private academies, which essentially serve as public high schools in their community).

LD AN ACT RELATING TO CONFERRING OF DEGREES BY THE P&SL 1987
134 YDI SCHOOLS. c. 4

Sponsor: PERKINS, Handy, Lawrence, Estes
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: This bill authorizes the Yacht Design Institute School to grant an additional degree - Associate in Science. The visiting committee assembled by the State Board of Education to conduct an on-site review recommended approval.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR. LVWD
136

Sponsor: CLARK N, Soucy, Hichborn, Randall
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: The intent of the bill was to allow local school units to extend the length of their school year up to 200 days without the approval of the commissioner, and beyond 200 days with the commissioner's approval. Due to a drafting error, both extensions required the commissioner's approval. The current limit under DECS rule is 190 days.

Because few units have entended to the present 190 day limit, the committee did not feel it was necessary to extend the limit at this time.

LD 137 AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION. ND LD 1315

Sponsor: CLARK N, Perkins, Soucy, Hichborn
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1315

SUMMARY: See New Draft LD 1315.

LD 143 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR SUBSTITUTTE TEACHERS AND TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LOCAL ABILITY TO PAY. ND LD 1725

Sponsor: HANDY, Matthews K, Bost, Kany
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1725 (MAJORITY REPORT)

SUMMARY: See New Draft LD 1725.

LD 146 AN ACT AUTHORIZING HUSSON COLLEGE TO CONFER THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE. CARRY-OVER

Sponsor: DIAMOND, Garland, Stevens P, Baldacci
Committee Report: CARRY-OVER

SUMMARY: This bill would have authorized Husson College to confer a Bachelor of Science degree. At the hearing on the bill, the department and the state board opposed the bill because Husson had not followed the degree granting authorization process outlined in state board rules. The committee also learned that the Audit and Program Review Committee had been studying the degree authorization process and would be making recommendations for streamlining it. The committee agreed to request that the bill be held over to the Second Regular Session and examined in light of any legislative changes as a result of the Audit Committee's bill.

LD 175 AN ACT RELATING TO A VOCATIONAL REGION AS DEFINED BY LAW. ND LD 1286

Sponsor: MELENDY, Small, Bost, Brawn
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1286

SUMMARY: See New Draft LD 1286.