

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

MAY 1988

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Sen. Edwin C. Randall

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1988**

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 for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Lorette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

LD An Act Authorizing Husson College to Confer the Degree of LV/WD
146 Bachelor of Science

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
DIAMOND	LV/WD		
GARLAND			
STEVENS P			
BALDACCI			

SUMMARY

This carryover bill from the First Session would have authorized Husson College to confer a Bachelor of Science degree. The need for this bill was eliminated by enactment of PL 1987, chapter 395 (the 1987 Audit and Program Review bill) which amended the law governing the offering of additional degrees by educational institutions. As amended, state law now permits institutions which have been initially authorized by the Legislature to confer certain degrees to offer additional degrees with the approval of the State Board of Education. Legislative change to the institution's charter is no longer required.

LD An Act to Increase the State Funding of Educational Costs PUBLIC
355 848
EMERGENCY

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
CASHMAN	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-492 ESTES
MARTIN J	ONTP	MIN	S-544 PEARSON
BOST			
EMERSON			

SUMMARY

This carryover bill would have increased the state share of subsidizable educational costs from its current level of 55% to 60% in 1988-89 and to 65% in 1991-92. The bill was substantially amended and became the committee's majority report on school funding.

The committee amendment would have incorporated the elements of LD 2201 except that the 2 year old operating and program costs must be adjusted by at least the average of the last 2 years increase in costs and that implementation of the hold harmless provisions would have been delayed to 1989-90. In addition, the committee amendment provided for a minimum state share of educational costs of 58% in 1988-89, clarified the determination and reporting of the local share percentage and the state share percentage of a unit's subsidizable costs, and created a special study commission to examine the school finance and property tax laws.

Senate amendment A incorporates the committee amendment except that it deletes the 58% state share provision, increases the hold harmless provision to 90% for all units, provides for implementation of the hold harmless provision in 1988-89 and changes the chairmanship and reporting date of the study commission.

Senate amendment B to Senate Amendment A makes a technical language correction in the bill.

LD An Act to Provide Assistance to Parents of Exceptional LV/WD
1211 Students

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
ANDREWS	LV/WD	
ESTES		
KILKELLY		
SMALL		

SUMMARY

This bill would have required school administrative units to notify the parents of exceptional children, in writing, of the support services available to their family. The bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to assess changes in administrative practices of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services. Following discussions between proponents of the bill and the DECS, it appeared to the committee that the objectives of the bill were being accomplished by DECS administrative actions.

LD An Act to Create the Maine Choice Scholarship Fund ND 2328
1240

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BOUTILIER	OTP-ND-NT	
GWADOSKY		
NADEAU G G		
MARTIN J		

SUMMARY

Replaced By LD 2328

LD An Act Relating to Geographic Isolation Grants PUBLIC
1933 853

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
SCARPINO	OTP-AM MAJ	H-454 MAJ REP
	ONTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill allows school administrative units which have not raised the maximum amount of their local share of the foundation allocation to receive