

# 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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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE FOR LEARNING DISABLED  
CHILDREN.

Sponsor:  
Committee Report: OTP-A  
Amendments Adopted:  
H-253 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: This bill represents the legislative recommendations of the Joint Select Committee for Learning Disabled Children. The original bill would have added a new provision to existing basic school approval requirements requiring the State Board of Education and the commissioner to adopt minimum standards for school administrative units regarding the development and implementation of a school plan using a team approach to identify and serve the needs of problem learners before they are referred to special education programs.

The bill would have amended the duties of school administrative units with respect to special education programs. School units would be required to show, in the special education plan already required, how appropriate educational programs are to be provided to special education students; provide staff with background and training in special education; and assure that a building level administrator be present at each pupil evaluation team meeting.

The bill would have expanded the criteria to be used by the commissioner in approving special education programs to include identification, evaluation and placement procedures; consideration of the appropriateness of the certification of special education teachers to the student population served; requiring that only students with similar academic and behavioral needs and abilities be served in a program; and requiring periodic screening to assess student progress. The bill would have established procedure for review of special education programs by the department.

The bill would have prohibited public institutions of higher education from requiring a person identified as learning disabled to take standardized tests in order to gain admission.

The bill would have required the department, in conjunction with the State Board of Education and the university, to conduct related studies and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education in January, 1988. Finally, the bill would have required the department, in conjunction with the State Board of Education and the university, to provide technical assistance, develop guidelines and offer training

programs to assist school administrative units in carrying out their special education responsibilities.

The Committee amendment clarified the provision of the original bill requiring a building level administrator to be present at the pupil evaluation team meeting to allow another person designated by the superintendent to represent the school administration at the meeting.

The amendment also clarified the criteria for approval of a school's special education plan proposed in the original bill by providing that children with different identified handicapping conditions may be served in the same program if that is compatible with the educational and behavioral needs of those students.

Finally, the amendment added a fiscal note and appropriation to provide staff to the Division of Special Education to implement the requirements of the bill.

LD 479	AN ACT TO VALIDATE THE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROCEEDINGS OF MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 42.	P&SL 1987 c. 9 EMERGENCY
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Sponsor: MAHANY, Ludwig, MacBride  
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: The bill validates the actions taken by the towns in SAD 42 in a referendum vote on a school construction bond issue notwithstanding the withdrawal of the town of Bridgewater from the district. The bonds shall be paid by the remaining towns in the district. Neither the town nor the residents of the town of Bridgewater shall have any liability for the bonds.

LD 485	AN ACT TO PROVIDE TEACHER RECOGNITION STIPENDS FOR VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL INSTITUTE TEACHERS.	LVWD
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Sponsor: MATTHEWS Z, Randall  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would have established a state-funded grant in the amount of \$50,000 to recognize faculty and instructors at post secondary vocational technical institutes in the 1987-88 academic year. These grants would have been awarded in addition to, and not in lieu of, any negotiated contract between the State Board of Education and the bargaining agent of the faculty and instructors' bargaining unit.