

# 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

LD AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT PROJECT ASPIRE FOR HIGH  
1198 SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE STATE.

P&SL 1987  
c. 57

Sponsor: DIAMOND, Pearson, Handy, Bost  
Committee Report: OTP-A  
Amendments Adopted:  
H-192 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: This bill establishes Project ASPIRE to be administered by the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System on a pilot project basis in several school systems around the State. Project ASPIRE would allow high school students to take college level courses in their high school. The courses would be taught by specially trained high school faculty members. University credit may be earned for those courses. The bill provides money for grants to local school units which choose to participate to cover the local share of the costs of participation. The board is directed to analyze the pilot projects and report to the Governor and the Legislature.

H-192 - The committee amendment provided for offering the courses outside the regular school day and directed the board to give consideration to alternative approaches in operating the pilot projects.

LD AN ACT TO ENHANCE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR  
1209 DISABLED STUDENTS.

ND LD 1850

Sponsor: ANDREWS, Randall, O'Gara, Gauvreau  
Committee Report: OTP-ND LD 1850

SUMMARY: See New Draft LD 1850.

LD AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS OF  
1211 EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS.

CARRY-OVER

Sponsor: ANDREWS, Estes, Kilkelly, Small  
Committee Report: CARRY-OVER

SUMMARY: This bill would have required school administrative units to notify the parents of exceptional children, in writing, of the support, advisory, counseling and advocacy services available to them and their child. The Department of Educational and Cultural Services opposed the bill on the grounds that, as worded, it would be difficult to administer because the contact person, phone number and existence of such groups is constantly changing. The department also felt that several

departmental projects had recently been instituted which would satisfy the objectives of the bill. The committee decided to hold the bill over to the next session and to ask the department to report on the status of those projects at that time.

LD AN ACT TO CREATE THE MAINE CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP CARRY-OVER  
1240 FUND.

Sponsor: BOUTILIER, Gwadosky, Nadeau GG, Martin J  
Committee Report: CARRY-OVER

SUMMARY: This bill would have established and funded the Maine Choice Scholarship Fund. That program which was patterned after the Blaine House Scholars program would have provided loans of up to \$2000 per year (\$10,000 total) to qualifying students for post-secondary study. Provision was also made in the bill for determination of underserved professional areas and preference would be given to students pursuing those careers. Loans are to be repaid within 5 years of graduation but may be cancelled upon completion of 4 years of employment in the students field of study in the State. One of several financial aid bills considered by the Committee this Session, LD 1240, was carried over to the Second Session.

LD AN ACT TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS IN THE SCHOOL INDEF. PP  
1256 FINANCE ACT.

Sponsor: CLARK N, Gould RA, Maybury, Lawrence  
Committee Report: OTP-A  
Amendments Adopted:  
S-172 COMMITTEE  
S-211 ESTES

SUMMARY: The original bill proposed three initiatives to increase the amount of state aid to local schools in the school finance formula. First, it proposed block grants to school units equal to \$500 time the number of full time equivalent teachers in the unit. Second, it proposed adding a second year of inflation into the calculation of allowable costs under the School Finance Act. Third, it provided a mechanism for the commissioner to help school units which were facing a budgetary hardship because of high "minor capital costs."

The committee amendment changed the computation of grants in the first part of the bill from a per teacher to a per student basis. The per student amount would be determined by dividing \$7,320,000 by the total number of students statewide. It also struck out the provision to add a second year of inflation.