

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

PREPARED BY:

David C. Elliott, Legislative Analyst
Lars Rydell, Legislative Analyst

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
(207) 289-1670

HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, DEP. DIRECTOR
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DAVID C. ELLIOTT
GRO FLATEBO
MARTHA E. FREEMAN, SR. ATTY.
JERI B. GAUTSCHI
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

ROOM 101/107
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
LARS H. RYDELL
JOHN R. SELSER
CAROLYN J. CHICK, PARALEGAL
ROBERT W. DUNN, RES. ASST.
HARTLEY PALLESCHI, JR., RES. ASST.
KATHRYN VAN NOTE, RES. ASST.

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

The amendment clarifies a conflict in the date of distribution of a warrant preparatory to a referendum vote on establishing an alternative budget approval process in a school administrative district. The amendment also adds a provision for certification of teachers in an approved private school which is parallel to a provision in the original bill for public schools. The amendment expands the description and use of documents which are public records. Finally, the amendment adds explanatory language regarding the payment of state agency client costs.

LD AN ACT TO PROVIDE SCHOOL APPROVAL FOR
1660 NONTRADITIONAL LIMITED PURPOSE SCHOOLS.

PL 1987
c. 250

Sponsor: NORTON, Kany, Brawn, Gwadosky
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 804

SUMMARY: The original bill would have provided for departmental approval of nontraditional schools such as Hurricane Island Outward Bound School under certain circumstances. The department supported the bill in concept but opposed the specific language of the bill. Following consultation between the sponsor and representatives of the department and Hurricane Island Outward Bound School, a new draft was presented to the committee.

The new draft satisfies the concerns of the department while still meeting the objectives of the sponsor. It is more tightly worded than the original bill and provides the department with a process for approval of nontraditional, limited purpose schools which is not found in existing law.

LD AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE QUALIFICATIONS AND
1725 COMPENSATION OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS.

INDEF. PP

Sponsor: HANDY, Matthews K, Bost, Kany
Committee Report:

SUMMARY: The original bill would have increased the minimum daily compensation of substitute teachers from \$35 per day to the equivalent of the daily pay for beginning teachers in a school administrative unit.

The new draft would have established 4 categories or levels for substitute teachers based on educational and certification level and would have set limits on the length of time teachers in each category could serve as a substitute. Special procedures would have allowed waiving those requirements in emergency situations. The new draft would have required provision of in-service training for

substitutes by the employing school unit. Finally, the new draft would have increased the minimum daily compensation for teachers from \$30 to \$35 per day, except that teachers in the highest of the 4 categories would be paid at the same daily rate as beginning teachers after 20 days teaching in a school unit.

LD 1754	RESOLVE, REQUIRING THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPROVE THE STATE'S ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM TO MORE ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF ILLITERACY AND HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION.	RESOLVE 1987 c. 40 EMERGENCY
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Sponsor:
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 987

SUMMARY: The original bill was designed to carry out some of the recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Economic Development. It would have required the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services to develop a plan to improve the State's adult education program to more adequately address the problems of illiteracy and high school completion and report to the Joint Standing Committees on Economic Development and Education prior to May 1, 1987. The department opposed the bill because the date for reporting was unrealistic and because the bill was too prescriptive as to what the plan was to contain and to accomplish, leaving little flexibility to the department in its development.

The new draft requires the department to submit an adult education plan to the Joint Standing Committees on Education and Economic Development by February 1, 1988. While requiring the plan to make recommendations which will provide universal adult basic education services, increase the level of state support for adult education services and address other related issues, the department is left with adequate flexibility on the way these issues will be addressed.

LD 1760	AN ACT TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO NEWLY CON- STRUCTED AND RENOVATED EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES	PL 1987 c. 379
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Sponsor: ANDREWS, Theriault, Handy, Lacroix
Committee Report: OTP

SUMMARY: The original bill would have required the Commissioner of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to provide for an inspection of a school construction project to determine compliance with the approved plans upon receipt of a petition alleging noncompliance from one or more persons residing in the