

# 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

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

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 CONSTRUCTED AND RENOVATED EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES PL 1987 c. 379

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

school administrative unit where the project exists. The amendment gives the commissioner the option of providing for the inspection or of issuing a written response to the petitioner's explaining why he or she chose not to. The amendment also requires the petitioners to certify that they have brought the question of compliance to the attention of the unit superintendent and have not received satisfactory results. Finally, this amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill. Since this amendment reduces the potential number of inspections which the commissioner would be required to arrange, the fiscal impact would be less than for the original bill.

LD RESOLVE, TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE ON POST-  
1772 SECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCING

INDEF. PP  
EMERGENCY

Sponsor: BOTT, Pearson, Norton  
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 1188  
H-297 BOST

SUMMARY: The original resolve established a task force on post-secondary education financing to study current financial aid resources available to students seeking higher education, and ways to adapt the programs to better serve those in need of financial aid. Membership on the task force included representatives of the banking industry, secondary school guidance personnel, financial aid administrators, affected students or parents, and the Legislature.

The new draft (LD 1772) expanded the membership to include both a student and a parent, and 6 financial aid officers representing the range of higher education institutions in the state. The new draft also clarified the appointment and convening procedures, amended the reporting date, revised the appropriation, provided for staff assistance and refined the mission of the task force. Areas of study included:-

1. Trends in the level and mix of loan, grant, and work study programs;
2. Assessment of financial aid needs of Maine students and the effectiveness of available programs at meeting them;
3. Coordination of federal, state, and other programs;
4. Financial aid for graduate students;
5. Availability of financial aid program information; and
6. Other relevant matters.

The Task Force on Post-secondary Education Financing would have submitted its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education on or before February 1, 1988.

The House amendment would have changed the appointment process for members of the task force.