

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
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JERI B. GAUTSCHI
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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
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HARTLEY PALLESCHI, JR., RES. ASST.
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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

Sponsor: HOGLUND, Foss, Crowley, Brannigan
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 803

SUMMARY: The intent of the original bill was to allow 11th and 12th grade students who applied and were accepted in courses at public post-secondary institutions to use those credits toward high school graduation as well as toward a diploma from the post-secondary institution. The high school which the student otherwise attended would be responsible for providing counselling services to the students and parents and the state would pay the tuition at the post-secondary institution.

The new draft of the bill made several significant changes. First, it removed the restriction that a student had to be in the 11th or 12th grade to participate. Second, it required school districts which were going to participate in the program to establish rules governing the criteria for student participation, method of determining credits, attendance policy, and a needs based method for paying for text books and course fees. Third, it made the school unit responsible for paying the tuition costs at the post-secondary institution and allowed school units to include these costs as program costs under the School Finance Act. Fourth, it made the participating students and their parents primarily responsible for textbooks, fees and transportation costs. Fifth, it established a procedure for evaluating the program.

Sponsor: BOST, Estes, Handy, O'Gara
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 1283

SUMMARY: The original bill would have established and funded at a nominal level the Maine Post-Secondary Educational Loan Program for Maine students. The program would have provided on the combined basis of need and projected academic success, no-interest loans ranging from 1/4 of tuition in the first year to full tuition in the fourth year of study at Maine post-secondary institutions. The loans would have been forgiven upon the completion of 4 years of full-time employment in Maine related to the degree granted. The bill would also have provided a tax credit to employers hiring students in the program after graduation.

The new draft would have deleted the tax credit provision and clarified several other aspects of the operation of the program.

LD 1839 AN ACT TO AMEND THE TEACHER CERTIFICATION LAW

VETO
SUSTAINED

Sponsor: BOST, Estes, Matthews K, O'Gara
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 635

SUMMARY: The original bill would have deleted reference to the master teacher level of certification in state law.

The new draft represented an attempted compromise between LD 635, the committee's majority report on certification, LD 1629, and the minority's report, LD 1630.

This new draft incorporated the elements of the majority and minority reports on which agreement was reached earlier. Those are:

1. Allowing for the completion of the administrator certification pilot projects currently in operation; and extending the implementation date for administrator certification from July 1, 1988, to July 1, 1989;
2. Generally continuing July 1, 1988, as the implementation date for the teacher certification law, but allowing teachers whose current certificate expires on July 30, 1988, to renew their certificate under the old law if they wish. Beginning on July 1, 1989, all certificates will be issued under the new law; and
3. Changing the 6-year review and reporting requirement by the State Board of Education on certification issues to an annual one and establishing a series of interim reports on the implementation of the teacher and administrator certification law prior to the first annual report.

In addition, the new draft extended the pilot projects on the master teacher concept for another year. It also provided for testing on an equal basis the concept of locally developed staff development plans for teachers. Both concepts are to be tested in 5 pilot project sites. The pilot sites for master teacher may be the same as exist under current law. The new draft added specific criteria to be tested at both sets of sites and establishes an open process for participation and evaluation of the results. After a year of testing the master teacher and staff development concepts, including monitoring of the pilot projects by the Joint Standing Committee on Education the committee was to make recommendations to the First Regular Session of the 114th Legislature.