

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
113TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION

MAY 1988

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Sen. Judy C. Kany  
Sen. Edwin C. Randall

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\* Denotes Chair

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1988**

*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 for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::*

<b>OTP</b>	<b>Ought to Pass</b>
<b>OTP-ND</b>	<b>Ought to Pass in New Draft</b>
<b>OTP-ND-NT</b>	<b>Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title</b>
<b>OTP-A</b>	<b>Ought to Pass as Amended</b>
<b>ONTP</b>	<b>Ought Not to Pass</b>
<b>LVWD</b>	<b>Leave to Withdraw</b>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<b>Indefinitely Postponed</b>

*Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Lorette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.*

*Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.*

enrolled in the school. It requires fees to be charged to cover the costs of providing child care to school employees. The amendment also clarifies that any student, regardless of grade level, would be eligible to use day care services provided by that student's school unit. Finally, the amendment directs the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to collect data necessary for assessment of the program and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education by January 15, 1990.

LD An Act Relating to Special Education in Maine Schools  
2172

INDEF PP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
KIMBALL	OTP-AM	H-630
ROLDE		S-428 ESTES
GILL		
ESTES		

SUMMARY

The original bill would have required school administrative units in conducting a diagnosis and evaluation of children suspected of having a handicapping condition to use a multidisciplinary assessment employing appropriately trained and licensed professionals. The bill would also have required units to assure face-to-face presentation of assessment results to parents and assured compensation to specialists used by the pupil evaluation team in performing the assessment, including supervision fees for psychological examiners.

The committee amendment would have struck the content of the bill and established the Interdisciplinary Advisory Committee on Special Education Assessment to advise the Legislature and the commissioner on the assessment of children with exceptional needs. The members were to be appointed by the commissioner and report by January 15, 1989.

The Senate amendment would have added a representative of the Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers to the advisory committee.

LD An Act to Reduce Special Education Costs to Local School  
2198 Administrative Units

PUBLIC  
850

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BOST	OTP-AM	H-560
PERKINS		S-512 PEARSON
ESTES		
CASHMAN		

SUMMARY

To help school administrative units deal with expensive out-of-district special education placements, this bill sets a cap on the cost of those placements to local units and requires the State to pay the costs which exceed that cap. The original bill established the cap at two times the average secondary school per pupil operating costs. Tuition, treatment and room and board costs were included within the cap.

The committee amendment raises the cap to three times the secondary foundation per pupil operation rate and limits its application to room and board and tuition costs.

The Senate amendment delays implementation of the bill until 1989-90, adds language to phase in provisions of the bill by prorating available funds and adds a fiscal note.

An entry was added to the second errors bill (LD 2657) to correct a cross reference and other language in the Senate amendment.

LD        An Act to Promote the Enhancement of Education in Maine        ONTP  
2201

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
SMALL	ONTP	MAJ	
RANDALL	OTP-AM	MIN	
PEARSON			
PARADIS J			

SUMMARY

This bill was introduced to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on School Funding. It provided for: (1) maintaining the State share of operating costs in future years at no less than the 1988-89 percentage, (2) updating 2 year old operating and program costs in a more realistic manner, (3) guaranteeing that each unit will receive at least 75% of what it received for operating costs in the previous year and that some "at risk" units will receive 90%, and (4) guaranteeing that each unit will receive at least 5% of its operating costs in State aid each year. In amended form, this bill served as the committee's minority report on school funding.

The committee amendment would have required that, except in unusual circumstances, the 2 year old base year costs be adjusted by at least the average increase in education costs over the last two years. The amendment also would have provided for any additional funds, up to \$11 million, available for education subsidy to be distributed through the updating adjustment.

LD        An Act to Restrict Smoking in Elementary and Secondary        ND 2597  
2311 Schools

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
DIAMOND	OTP-ND	MAJ	
GILL	ONTP	MIN	
DEXTER			
HICKEY			

SUMMARY

Replaced By LD    2597