

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
114TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION

JULY 1989

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Sen. Barbara A. Gill

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\* Denotes Chair

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
AUGUST 1989

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 for 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 abbreviated as follows:

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

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 Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

**LD 82** An Act to Fund the Cost of the Salaries for Professionals in  
New or Expanded Special Education or Gifted and Talented  
Programs on a One-year Basis (Reported Pursuant to Public  
Laws of 1987, Chapter 848)

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

LV/WD

SUMMARY

The bill would have allowed school units to include year-old costs for new professional positions in special education or gifted and talented programs in their program allocation in the school funding formula. The effect is to reduce the lag time for including these new costs in the calculation of the school unit's subsidy from 2 years to one year and to make the subsidy for special education better reflect actual one-year-old costs.

This bill was a recommendation from the Special Commission to Study School Funding and State Tax Law.

**LD 83** An Act to Provide for State Sharing of Certain Minor Capital  
Costs (Reported Pursuant to Public Laws of 1987, Chapter 848)

CARRIED OVER  
APP/FIN COMM

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

OTP-AM

S-238

S-249 BUSTIN

SUMMARY

This bill was a recommendation of the Special Commission to Study School Funding and State Tax Law. The bill moves minor capital costs for asbestos abatement, underground oil tank removal and roof repairs and renovations from the operating cost allocation to the debt service allocation in the school funding formula. This shift would have the effect of assuring that state subsidy dollars generated by these costs will go to the school units which expended the money.

The committee amendment (S-238) adds to the type of costs that are considered minor capital costs, moves the costs out of the operating allocation and provides for reimbursement of the costs through an adjustment to a unit's allocation. In addition to asbestos, oil tanks and roofs, other minor capital costs incurred as a result of state or federal laws or rules relating to safety, sanitation or health would be eligible for reimbursement as minor capital costs under the formula. This would include, for example, replacement of overboard discharge systems as required by law. The amendment creates an adjustment to a unit's subsidy to reimburse for the costs. Under the adjustment, the unit would receive the difference between their costs and their maximum expected local contribution. The maximum expected local contribution would be the lesser of the local share percentage of operating costs, multiplied by the costs, or the unit's state valuation multiplied by a special circuit breaker mill rate. The circuit breaker would be set on the basis of having the local units pay 30% of costs, on a statewide basis.

The Senate amendment (S-249) makes a technical change in paragraph lettering. The bill was carried over in the Appropriations Committee.