

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 175 **Resolve, Creating the Special Commission to Study
Instructional Time in Schools**

INDEF PP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
CROWLEY KILKELLY O'GARA O'DEA	OTP-AM	H-479

SUMMARY

This resolve would have created a special commission to study several issues related to the effective use of instructional time in schools, including length of the school day and year.

A broadly representative membership was provided for the commission; and the commission was to present its findings, together with any recommended legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature by November 30, 1989.

The committee amendment provided for input during the study from the State Board of Education and increased the number of members on the commission, the number of public meetings of the commission and the appropriations by the amount necessary for these additional requirements.

This resolve was not funded on the Appropriations Table. A Legislative Council study was approved on the same topic to be conducted by a 5 member subcommittee of the Education Committee.

LD 177 **An Act Relating to the Approval of School Administrative
District Budgets**

ONTP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
RIDLEY LORD MURPHY GOULD R A	ONTP	

SUMMARY

Current law provides that, if voters in a school administrative district do not approve a budget offered by the board of directors by July 1st, the budget as first submitted by the board prevails. The bill provided that if the operating budget is not approved by July 1st, the previous year's budget as approved by the voters in that year would be used.

LD 183 **An Act to Ensure Coordinated Investigations of Complaints
Regarding Special Education**

PUBLIC 69

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
ESTES NORTON SMALL	OTP-AM	S-36

SUMMARY

This bill amends special education laws to coordinate and standardize the procedure for filing a complaint that those laws are not being complied with by a public or private school.

The committee amendment provides for notification of the school involved when a complaint is filed alleging violation of special education laws.

LD 185 **An Act to Promote Greater Equity in the Loans of the Maine Educational Loan Authority** **ONTP**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BOST	ONTP	
ESTES		
CLARK N		
CROWLEY		

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that a portion of the funds administered by the Maine Educational Loan Authority to provide financial assistance for college costs be set aside for low and moderate income students and families. This bill would have also provided for the deferring of interest accrued on student loans administered by the authority while the student was enrolled full-time in an institution of higher education.

LD 187 **An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Truants, Dropouts and Alternative Programs** **PUBLIC 415**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
GILL	OTP-AM	S-290
FOSTER		
O'GARA		
NORTON		

SUMMARY

This bill amends several provisions of current law to strengthen compulsory attendance provisions, to clarify alternative program provisions for at-risk youth and to provide injunctive relief in District Court to ensure compliance with compulsory attendance laws.

The committee amendment makes several changes to strengthen the bill, including: clarifying the equitable jurisdiction of the District Court and eliminating the monetary penalty for violation of compulsory attendance laws, strengthening the informal process for resolving a truancy case by the superintendent, making it a violation of the child labor laws to employ a truant, providing for selection of the members of a local dropout prevention committee by the represented groups, and granting rulemaking authority to the commissioner.