

# 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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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 1112 An Act to Ensure that All Maine Students Leave Secondary School with Basic Literacy Skills**

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)  
HEPBURN  
PARADIS J  
GILL  
AULT

COMMITTEE REPORT  
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that all students, both candidates for a high school diploma and students who, in accordance with procedures in current law, elect to leave school after completion of the ninth grade, must pass a functional literacy examination. The Department of Educational and Cultural Services would have developed and administered the exam. However, a school administrative unit would have been allowed to develop and administer its own exam provided that exam was approved by the department. The bill would have directed the commissioner to enact rules requiring school administrative units to add to their curriculum a course of study designed to ensure that potential dropouts acquire functional literacy before leaving the public school system.

**LD 1127 An Act to Enhance the Status of Vocational-technical Education in Maine**

PUBLIC 443

SPONSOR(S)  
CROWLEY  
NORTON  
ESTES  
KANY

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
H-507

SUMMARY

This bill changes the name of the vocational-technical institutes to technical colleges and calls for each technical college to be administered by a president rather than a director. The committee amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill which provides that the name change for the Maine Vocational-Technical Institute System called for in the bill will be implemented within existing resources.

**LD 1131 An Act to Prohibit Injurious Hazing of Public School Students**

PUBLIC 531

SPONSOR(S)  
BALDACCI  
BOST  
LEBOWITZ  
GILL

COMMITTEE REPORT  
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED  
S-148 ESTES S

SUMMARY

This bill requires local school boards to adopt policies and penalties to deter hazing and to distribute copies of these policies and penalties to all students enrolled in public schools. The senate amendment adds a fiscal note to the effect that local school units will incur additional costs which would qualify for 100% state reimbursement under current law during the first two years of this requirement. While the cost to individual schools will not be significant, an additional General Fund appropriation will be required to pay for the statewide total of these local costs. However, the amount of the appropriation cannot be determined at this time.