

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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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 1329 **An Act to Amend the Law Concerning the Collection of Fees
for General Educational High School Equivalency Certificates**

**PUBLIC 525
EMERGENCY**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
COLLINS	OTP-AM	S-210
SMALL		S-431 PEARSON
JOSEPH		
CARTER		

SUMMARY

This bill removes the fee charged for the issuance of any high school equivalency certificate and provides for a General Fund appropriation to be submitted by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services to request the funds necessary to administer the general educational diploma program. Since fees derived from the issuance of general equivalency certificates provide less than 1/3 of the funds required to administer the general educational diploma program and additional financial resources are no longer available due to decreased revenues earned in the Permanent School Fund and reduced federal administrative allowances under the Adult Basic Education Act, the department was in need of a different funding source. The committee amendment adds an appropriation and an allocation to the fiscal note of the bill.

**LD 1334 Resolve, to Establish a Select Study Commission to Study
Educational Voucher Systems**

ONTP

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
BRAWN	ONTP	
RICHARDS		
GOULD R R		
BERUBE		

SUMMARY

This resolve would have provided for a legislative study of the merits and impacts of educational voucher systems. The purpose of the study would have been to determine whether the use of vouchers to provide parents with a wider range of choices would be desirable. The commission would have examined the schedules and costs of the existing educational system and examined the merits of alternative voucher systems. Membership of the commission would have included representatives and principals of public and private schools, the Commissioner of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, a member of an independent school association and the Legislature. The commission would have submitted its report, together with any implementing legislation, to the 114th Legislature no later than December 1, 1989.

**LD 1335 Resolve, to Establish Statewide Secondary School Competency
Examinations**

**ONTP-MAJ REP
ACCEPTED**

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
FOSS	ONTP MAJ	
GILL	OTP-AM MIN	
CROWLEY		
SMALL		

SUMMARY

LD 1335 would have required that the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services conduct a study of standardized competency examinations and to determine what standardized mathematics and English