

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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* 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.

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
ESTES	OTP-AM	H-576 CROWLEY
CROWLEY		S-270
SMALL		S-328 ESTES
BOST		

SUMMARY

This bill would have set up the School Organization Study Commission to review the various organizational laws of special school administrative units established by statute. The study would have encompassed a comprehensive review of school administrative districts, community school districts, school unions and union schools. The study would have included a determination of the impact of these various school organizational structures on the workload of school administrators and the time and number of personnel needed to effectively manage the various organizational units.

The committee members would have included the Commissioner of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, legislators from the education committee, a school business manager, a local school board member, a municipal manager, a municipal finance director and a selectman. The committee would have reported its recommendations, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 114th Legislature by December 15, 1989.

The committee amendment (S-270) added an emergency preamble and clause, expanded the areas of review of the study committee, revised the committee membership, changed the reporting date to January 15, 1990 and increased the amount of the appropriation.

The House amendment (H-576) to the committee amendment changed the appointing authority of the State Board of Education member from the President and the Speaker to the Governor.

The Senate amendment (S-328) to the resolve provided for staffing assistance for the committee.

**LD 1488 An Act to Alter Cost-sharing Agreements Among Municipalities
in School Administrative Districts**

LV/WD

<u>SPONSOR(S)</u>	<u>COMMITTEE REPORT</u>	<u>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</u>
SEAVEY	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

Under current law, the municipalities in a school administrative district are treated as one unit for purposes of calculating the state subsidy under the School Finance Act. The municipalities in the district generally decide at the time they form the district how they will share costs among municipalities. Statute permits them to share on the basis of pupils, valuation, or a combination. The bill would have added a fourth type of cost sharing, based on the School Finance Act. The bill also would void all cost sharing agreements entered into before January 1, 1974 and require the municipalities to renegotiate the method of sharing costs. If they could not agree on a method of sharing costs, they would be required to use the method based on the finance formula, with a modification designed to minimize the disparity in the per pupil tax levy required by each municipality.