

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

JUNE 1990

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**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee
Bill Summaries**

June 1990

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. 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 or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, 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 1439 **An Act to Provide a Minimum Level of State Educational Funding for Schools**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

KILKELLY
BREWER
ESTES
LIBBY

COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

LD 1439 was carried over from the 1st Regular Session. As amended by the committee during the 1st Regular Session, the bill would have changed the way the 5% minimum allocation was calculated.

LD 1564 **Resolve, Creating the Special Commission to Study and Evaluate the Status of Education Reform in Maine**

**RESOLVE 88
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

BOST
ESTES
CROWLEY
NORTON

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1021 KILKELLY
H-1096 CROWLEY
S-593

SUMMARY

This bill was recalled from last session's dead files and committed to the Education Committee. The bill establishes a special commission to study and evaluate educational reform in Maine since 1984, including teacher and administrator certification, the Education Reform Act and the minimum teacher salary law.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-593) makes several changes in the resolve to clarify the makeup and duties of the Special Commission. The membership is increased from 18 to 19 members; the appointment process is changed; and provision is made for a chair and co-chair. The amendment also makes it clear that funding for the study must be from non-state funds and authorizes the Legislative Council to seek and administer any funds acquired.

House Amendment "A" (H-1021) makes a technical correction in the date on which the Special Commission is to convene.

House Amendment "A" to the Committee Amendment (H-1096) changes the appointment method for certain members of the commission.

LD 1805 **An Act Concerning Geographic Isolation Grants**

PUBLIC 697

SPONSOR(S)

SKOGLUND
MILLS
MARTIN J
COLLINS

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-806 MAJ REP

SUMMARY

LD 1805 specifies the method for determining the amount of geographic isolation adjustment grants for isolated school administrative units. The amount of the adjustment is equal to the difference between the unit's actual per pupil expenditures and the average statewide per pupil expenditure.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-806), the Committee's majority report, replaces the original bill. The amendment requires the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services to determine geographic

isolation for individual schools, rather than for school administrative units, sets forth the factors that must be considered in determining whether a school is geographically isolated, and requires the commissioner to adopt rules to set forth specific eligibility standards and rules for calculating the amount of the adjustment. These rules must establish a point system that takes into account all factors affecting schools without eliminating a school on the basis of a single factor.

The minority report was "ought not to pass."

LD 1841 An Act Relating to the Town of York School District

**P & S 104
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
ESTES

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-514

SUMMARY

LD 1841 amends the charter of the Town of York School District as it relates to responsibility of the Trustees of the School District for minor capital costs and ongoing maintenance of school property and facilities. The bill authorizes the trustees of the Town of York School District to issue a certain amount of bonds or notes for minor capital purposes to renovate the existing elementary school, without a referendum. The bill takes effect when approved for the purpose of submitting it to the voters for acceptance and takes effect for all purposes immediately upon acceptance by the voters. The bill also corrects outdated references to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-514) adds a fiscal note and clarifies that the Town of York School District is not responsible for minor capital costs related to facilities that are not school facilities.

**LD 1888 An Act Concerning Financial Accountability of Schools
Approved for Tuition Purposes**

PUBLIC 615

SPONSOR(S)
ESTES

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-471

SUMMARY

LD 1888 requires that private schools approved for tuition purposes file an annual audit with the State Auditor. Previously, more detailed budget information was collected from each private school approved for tuition purposes and included in the annual report on school budgets of the Commissioner of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-471) clarifies that such detailed reports are no longer required and adds a fiscal note.

**LD 1895 An Act to Permit Changes in the Charter of the City of
Ellsworth School District**

P & S 138

SPONSOR(S)
PERKINS
FOSTER
ESTES
GILL

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-531
S-720 PEARSON

SUMMARY

LD 1895 amends the charter of the City of Ellsworth School District to increase the maximum allowable total indebtedness of the district from \$1,400,000 to \$5,000,000.