

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

MAY 1992

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Stephen C. Estes*
Sen. Dale McCormick
Sen. Linda Curtis Brawn

**Rep. Nathaniel J. Crowley, Sr.*
Rep. James R. Handy
Rep. William B. O'Gara
Rep. James V. Oliver
Rep. John J. O'Dea
Rep. Mary F. Cahill
Rep. Sophia Douglass
Rep. Alvin L. Barth, Jr.
Rep. Madeline Stevenson
Rep. Deale B. Salisbury

**Denotes Chair*

Staff:

Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670

IARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST
ULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
DON CLARK
YAN M. DYTTER
BRO FLATEBO
EBORAH C. FRIEDMAN
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS
KANE ORBETON



KAREN L. HRUBY
JILL IPPOLITI
JOHN B. KNOX
PATRICK NORTON
MARGARET J. REINSCH
PAUL J. SAUCIER
HAVEN WHITESIDE
MILA M. DWELLEY, RES. ASST.
ROY W. LENARDSON, RES. ASST.
BRET A. PRESTON, RES. ASST.

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1992

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of enacted Resolve
CON RES XXX	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
CARRIED OVER	Bill carried over to Special Session
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass report accepted
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw report accepted
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House and Senate disagree; bill died
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature filed to override Governor's Veto
UNSIGNED	Not signed by Governor within 10 days
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

These summaries were 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, especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

LD 1902 An Act to Establish a Professional Standards Board for Maine Teachers

UNSIGNED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED	
HANDY	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-1223	
CLARK N	ONTP	MIN	H-1289	CROWLEY
ESTES			S-687	MCCORMICK
MORRISON			S-747	BRANNIGAN

SUMMARY

This bill was introduced in the 1st Session and carried over to the 2nd Session by the committee. The bill establishes the Professional Standards Board for Educators which is charged with the responsibility of licensing teachers and administrators and approving educator preparation programs. The board consists of 13 members appointed by the Governor subject to Legislative approval, including 7 teachers, 3 administrators, 2 representatives of educator preparation programs and one public member. Educator licenses granted by the board would eventually replace educator certificates issued by the State Board of Education and the Department of Education. Fees are established for licenses issued by the board.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1223) retains the concept of a professional licensing board for educators from the bill but narrows its application to the licensure of teachers and approval of postsecondary teacher preparation programs. Several technical changes are made to clarify the organization of the Professional Standards Board for Teachers, the implementation of professional licensing requirements for teachers and teacher education approval programs beginning January 1, 1993, the treatment of funds collected for licenses and program approval by the board and the transition from a certification process by the State Board of Education to licensure by the Professional Standards Board for Teachers.

The House Amendment (H-1289) strikes the requirement that members of the board appointed by the Governor be approved by the Legislature.

Senate Amendment (S-687) increases the licensure fee for active teachers to \$50 making the fee for all licenses issued by the board the same.

Senate Amendment (S-741) corrects a conflicting provision in the Committee Amendment, makes a technical correction and corrects the fiscal note.

LD 1994 An Act Regarding the Repayment of Blaine House Scholarships

PUBLIC 664
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CLEVELAND	OTP-AM	S-541

SUMMARY

Committee Amendment "A" (S-541) replaces the original bill. The amendment adds an emergency preamble to permit the Finance Authority of Maine to immediately issue loan deferments to eligible recipients of a Blaine House Scholars loan.

The amendment corrects an error in the statute created by conflicting amendments enacted during the First Regular Session of the 115th Legislature.

The amendment allows the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine to grant a one-year deferment to a recipient of a Blaine House Scholars loan for general postsecondary education or preservice teacher preparation who intends to teach in a public or private school approved for tuition purposes but has been unable to find such employment. No more than 5 one-year deferments may be authorized for a recipient.

The amendment allows the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine to grant a one-year deferment to a recipient of a Blaine House Scholars loan for teachers or postbaccalaureate teacher certification who intends to teach in a public or private school approved for tuition purposes but has been unable to find such employment. No more than 5 one-year deferments may be authorized for a recipient.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 2000 An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Certification of
Educational Personnel**

PUBLIC 682

SPONSOR(S)

BRAWN
HANLEY

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

S-558

SUMMARY

The original bill contains provisions to facilitate the issuance of Maine professional teaching certificates to qualified, experienced out-of-state teachers moving to Maine to teach.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-558) retains those provisions and amends other sections to accommodate issuance of professional teaching certificates to out-of-state teachers. The amendment also directs the Commissioner of Education to conduct a study of the appeals process for persons whose application for certification or endorsement is denied or whose certification or endorsement is revoked or voided. The commissioner is required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education by January 1, 1993.

The amendment directs the State Board of Education to review the status of out-of-field teaching restrictions and present a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education by January 1993.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 2028 An Act to Clarify Municipal Approval of Payments of Public
School Funds and Awards of Hardship Fund Assistance**

UNSIGNED

SPONSOR(S)

LAWRENCE

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-1116

SUMMARY

The original bill clarifies that once municipal officers have voted to appropriate money for public schools for educational purposes, those officers can not then deny payment upon proper presentation of a bill or invoice.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1116) establishes guidelines for creation of a hardship fund to assist communities facing hardship due to reductions in general purpose aid during the 1991-92 school year. The amendment authorizes the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules for operation of the fund. The amendment also adds a new title and a fiscal note to the bill.