

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

JULY 1993

Staff:
Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst

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

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CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL: (207) 287-1670
FAX (207) 287-1275

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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 right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

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.

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

4693NRG

LD 924 An Act to Amend the School Funding Formula

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
SKOGLUND
PINGREE

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a new method of determining a municipality's ability to support education costs.

Under the current school funding statute, a municipality's state subsidy for education costs is tied to the number of pupils in the municipality and the state valuation of property. This bill replaces state valuation of property with a new measure of wealth defined as median municipal household income times the number of households in the municipality divided by the percent of total municipal property tax assessed on residential property. The income-based model is designed to lessen reliance on property value as a measure of ability to pay.

The bill requires that the State fund 100% of all special education tuition and costs for students placed out of district to receive education services. The bill also increases the minimum state allocation to a school unit from 5% to 10% of the foundation per pupil operating rate times the number of pupils in the unit.

LD 939 An Act to Provide Equitable School Funding

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
DUTREMBLE D
BRANNIGAN
ROWE

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill amends the laws governing the school funding formula to require that a municipality's wealth or ability to pay be calculated by using median household income, adjusted to reflect the cost of living in the area and the average person's existing tax effort as measured by the property taxes and income taxes that they pay.

This bill also sets a maximum of 70% on the amount of state funding that a school unit can receive and requires that state aid fund only basic education programs, as is done in other states.

LD 1000 An Act to Eliminate the Position and Office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
COFFMAN
BAILEY H

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have eliminated the position and office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System. To accomplish this, the bill:

1. Removes the chancellor from the list of ex officio corporators of the Board of Directors of the Maine Development Foundation;
2. Repeals the provision requiring the chancellor to present an address on the state of the University of Maine System to the Legislature;

3. Repeals the provision establishing a committee, appointed by the chancellor, whose reporting and implementation dates have passed;
4. Replaces the chancellor with a member representing the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System on the New England Board of Higher Education;
5. Removes a reference to the chancellor in the laws concerning University of Maine System labor relations;
6. Requires the board of trustees rather than the chancellor to appoint a member to the State Board of Substance Abuse Counselors and a member to the Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure; and
7. Amends the charter of the University of Maine System to remove all references to and authority of the chancellor and to establish a council made up of the heads of each campus to oversee certain systemwide functions.

**LD 1014 Resolve, to Continue the Commission to Study the Feasibility
of a Capital Cultural Center**

**RESOLVE 8
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
LIPMAN
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This resolve continues the Commission to Study the Feasibility of a Capital Cultural Center and creates an additional reporting requirement of November 1, 1994.

**LD 1073 An Act to Create a Student Seat on the Board of Trustees
of the Maine Maritime Academy**

P & S 27

SPONSOR(S)
HANDY
BOWERS

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-113
S-150 O'DEA

SUMMARY

This bill creates a student seat on the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy.

Committee Amendment "A" replaces the original bill and creates a student seat on the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy and permits the appointment of 2 nonresidents as voting members of that board. The amendment also creates nonvoting seats on the board of trustees for the chair of the board of visitors and the president of the alumni association.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" repeals the provision that would permit the chair of the board of visitors and the president of the alumni association to serve ex officio as nonvoting trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy.