

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1995

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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

AUGUST 1995

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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, together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

LD 1240 **An Act to Establish Minimum Statewide Standards for Teachers' Salaries** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
KEANE ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill ensures that the salaries for certified teachers in all state schools are no lower than the average of salaries for their counterparts in other states of comparable population and wealth.

LD 1274 **Resolve, to Standardize the Basic Entrance and Placement Examinations for the Maine Technical College System and the University of Maine System** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
WINN ONTP

SUMMARY

This resolve requires the establishment of a uniform examination for use in the admissions or placement procedures of the campuses of the University of Maine System and the Maine Technical College System.

LD 1275 **Resolve, Directing the Department of Education and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to Review the Continuing Education Requirements for Speech Therapists Working in the Schools** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
WINN ONTP

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Education and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to jointly review the continuing education requirements for speech therapists working in the schools, and to propose any recommended changes to the Legislature no later than November 1, 1995.

LD 1313 **An Act to Provide for the Position of President of the University of Maine System** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
AHEARNE ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill eliminates the position and office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, eliminates the position of president for each campus and instead provides for one president for the combined campuses. 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 provide for one president for the combined campuses, with one vice-president appointed for each campus.

LD 1317 An Act to Improve Public Access to the Maine State Museum P & S 49

SPONSOR(S) BUSTIN	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED S-168
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SUMMARY

This bill provides funds for the Maine State Museum to better serve visitors with disabilities as required by state and federal law, including 2 Museum Technician I educators with qualifications for sign language interpretation who are required to provide 7-day coverage of educational exhibits. They will serve school groups and the general public.

This bill also includes funds for the capital purchase of an electric mobility device, which will benefit visitors unable to use standard wheelchairs in the extensively ramped exhibit areas.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-168) eliminates funds for 2 Museum Technician I educator positions from the bill and leaves in place the request for funds to purchase an electric mobility device to assist Maine State Museum visitors with disabilities. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1352 An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Administrator Certification PUBLIC 282

SPONSOR(S) CARPENTER	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED S-207
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SUMMARY

This bill provides for conditional administrator certification for an administrator who is otherwise qualified for full certification but may lack completion in one or more of the competency areas. Conditional certification requires a specific time for the individual to complete requirements for full certification. The purpose of this bill is to expand the pool of qualified administrators to fill job vacancies.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-207) adds a fiscal note to the bill.