

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
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1995

Staff:

Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Mary E. Small
Sen. I. Joel Abromson
Sen. Donald E. Esty, Jr.*

**Rep. John L. Martin
Rep. Peter A. Cloutier
Rep. Kathleen Stevens
Rep. Michael F. Brennan
Rep. Julie Winn
Rep. Mabel J. Desmond
Rep. Wendy J. Ault
Rep. Alvin L. Barth, Jr.
Rep. James D. Libby
Rep. Rodney W. McElroy*

**Denotes Chair*



**Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333
Telephone (207) 287-1670
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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 1454 An Act to Make Changes in the Law Establishing the Maine School of Science and Mathematics

PUBLIC 485

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
O'NEAL	OTP-AM MAJ	H-383
PARADIS	ONTP MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies the law establishing the Maine School of Science and Mathematics by adding language stating that the school is an agency of the State. The bill adds language establishing a treasurer position for financial management for the Board of Trustees of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and adds language that allows the board of trustees to sue or be sued in the name of the school. It also adds a section to the law establishing the financing authority of the board of trustees and stating what it may do regarding bonds and notes of the school.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-383) makes technical changes to the bill that more accurately reflect the current responsibilities of the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1479 An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Education

PUBLIC 322

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
SMALL	OTP-AM	S-235
		S-247 CARPENTER

SUMMARY

This bill makes the following changes to the education laws of this State.

1. It replaces the Commissioner of Human Services on the Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund Board with the Commissioner of Education.
2. It removes all references to the School Volunteer Program in the department.
3. It removes all references to the School Nurse Coordinator in the department.
4. It changes the name of the advisory committee for the Division of Deafness to the advisory council for the Division of Deafness and changes all references from "hearing impaired" to "hard of hearing."
5. It changes all references in the laws relative to the Division of Deafness from "hearing impaired" to "hard of hearing."
6. It amends several sections of law concerning vending facilities to apply to blind food facilities and their managers and staff.
7. It adds a provision to bring the State and state schools into compliance with the provisions of the federal Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1994.
8. It amends the law regarding federal aid to prevent the United States Department of Education from compelling school units that received federal impact aid in the State to pay back the impact aid they received for fiscal year 1992-93 and mitigates the financial impact of restoration of the subsidy by spreading it out over a period of one to 2 years.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-235) adds new definitions of "deaf" and "hard of hearing" to the bill. The amendment changes the number of members serving on the advisory council to the Division of Deafness from 23 to 24 and removes the nonvoting status from members-at-large. The amendment also eliminates a provision concerning federal impact aid, which is addressed in separate legislation, and adds a fiscal note to the bill.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-247), presented on behalf of the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading, makes technical corrections to the amendment.

LD 1480 An Act to Require School Administrative Districts to Provide ONTP
Funding for Independent Evaluations

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WINN	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill requires school administrative units to pay for an educational diagnosis and evaluation conducted by a psychologist chosen by the child's parents. The chosen psychologist must be licensed in this State as a psychologist or licensed in another state that has similar standards for licensing or certification.

LD 1482 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to RESOLVE 34
Develop a Statewide Plan for a Skills Development Program
for Teachers

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WINN	OTP-AM	H-499

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Education to facilitate, statewide, the development of an integrated and coordinated staff development program for all school personnel. The plan is intended to maximize the utilization of staff workshop days, be financed through existing funds and provide continuing education unit requirements for participants.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-499) replaces the bill. The bill requires the Department of Education to develop a statewide plan for staff development. The amendment directs the Department of Education to study and recommend a statewide plan for professional development, to be incorporated into the 5-year plan for education being developed by the Task Force on Learning Results. The amendment requires the Department of Education to present its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and the Task Force on Learning Results by January 15, 1996. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1483 Resolve, to Create Educational Options for Exceptional RESOLVE 30
Children

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WINN	OTP-AM	H-398

SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Education, in consultation with various interested parties, to propose methods to create educational opportunities and equalize access to educational services for exceptional children.