

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

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 Funding for Independent Evaluations** ONTP

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 Develop a Statewide Plan for a Skills Development Program for Teachers** RESOLVE 34

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 Children** RESOLVE 30

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.