

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MAY 1998

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*Sen. Mary R. Cathcart*  
*Sen. Mary E. Small*

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**May 1998**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- INDEF PP*.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*.....Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

placement option within another school administrative unit pursuant to the so-called "superintendents' agreement" provisions established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5205, subsection 6;

2. Priority would be given to proposals that the commissioner determines are most likely to make a lasting contribution to education in the State, that are reasonably cost-effective and that could be replicated in urban or rural areas of the State;
3. The commissioner would review the results of the educational placement options grant program following operation of the grant program during the 1999-2000 school year and would submit a report and any recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs on or before January 31, 2001; and
4. A General Fund appropriation of \$50,000, in addition to the customary and ongoing amounts appropriated in fiscal year 1998-99 for general purpose aid to local schools, would be appropriated to the Department of Education to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note.

**LD 1045**                      **Resolve, to Create the Task Force on Research and Development Investment**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BIGL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1045 was carried over from the First Regular and First Special Sessions and proposed to create the Task Force on Research and Development Investment to determine the appropriate level of capital and human resource investment necessary to enhance Maine's ability to develop projects that can lead to the creation of new businesses and jobs.

**LD 1168**                      **Resolve, to Reorganize the University of Maine System**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LIBBY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1168 was carried over from the First Regular and First Special Sessions and proposed to require the Legislative Council to draft legislation that reorganizes the governance and coordination structure of the University of Maine System by replacing the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System with a coordinating board and seven campus boards of trustees. The bill further proposed to allow the Legislative Council to request assistance from the Office of the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs in drafting this legislation.