

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**JULY 1997**

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***Sen. Mary R. Cathcart***

***Sen. Mary E. Small***

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**Maine State Legislature**

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

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees  
August 1997**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. 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 alphabetically 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:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- 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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

*David E. Boulter, Director*

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7. It establishes a task force to review and make recommendations regarding the potential for achieving greater administrative efficiency and economy from consolidating regional sites in the Child Development Services System, and the cost-effectiveness of hiring professional staff to be employed at the regional Child Development Services Systems sites as compared to contracting for services with nonprofit and for-profit services providers.

**LD 1597**

**An Act to Make Certain Changes in the University of Maine System to Promote Lifelong Learning**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
BENNETT

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1597 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposed to:

1. Direct the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to establish a transfer policy that allows students to transfer all general education courses within the University of Maine System from one campus to another without restrictions;
2. Establish a common academic calendar that enables all of the campuses of the system to be on the same academic schedule;
3. Establish tuition rates that do not vary more than 10% among the campuses;
4. Ensure that the Education Network of Maine (ENM) serves as a student-centered instructional delivery system that retains broadcast facilities located at the University of Maine at Augusta, yet provides post-secondary education students across the State with the full range of academic programs and the breadth of faculty expertise that are available at each campus of the University of Maine System; and
5. Allow no more than 10% of any institution's total budget to be used for administrative purposes and prohibit the average salaries of University of Maine System administrators, including the office of the Chancellor and system-wide services staff, from exceeding the average salary of University of Maine System faculty members who are involved in teaching and research.

**LD 1601**

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require the Legislature to Provide a Statewide System of Uniform and High-quality Education**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
LONGLEY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1601 proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to strike the words requiring that towns make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of schools and to add language requiring the Legislature to support schools and to seek to ensure that a program of uniform and high-quality education is established and continually maintained at all schools in the State. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.