

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).

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

Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAKER C PENDLETON P	OTP-AM	H-540 H-761 RICHARD

LD 1832 proposes to establish the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-540) proposed to add to the task force two members representing the Child Development Services System and the Maine Parent Federation and would replace three parents with three members at large to be appointed by the Governor. This amendment would also direct the Department of Human Services to provide staffing and clerical assistance to the task force and would authorize the Commissioner of Human Services to utilize existing department resources to review and report on the duties of the task force. This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the resolve.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-761) proposed to reduce the number of task force members, would specify the number of meetings, would specify that legislative members receive per diem and reimbursement for expenses and would add an appropriation section to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 68 establishes the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers. The task force shall accomplish the following:

1. Design a comprehensive model of early childhood education and parent support;
2. Catalog and review existing programs to ensure there is a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of early childhood education and parent support services in the State;
3. Investigate ways to establish a statewide resource center for the collection and dissemination of resource materials and an ongoing evaluation of early childhood education and parent support programs; and
4. Review early childhood education and parent support programs in other states and investigate all possible funding sources to implement its recommendations.

The task force shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, with a copy to the Governor, a report of its findings, including any necessary implementing legislation no later than December 1, 1997.