

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.

Sen. Mary E. Small

Rep. Michael F. Brennan, Chair

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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).

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
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
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 September 18, 1999.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROWE PINGREE	OTP-AM	

LD 630 proposed to establish the Maine Communities in the New Century Program to preserve, revitalize and improve the State's cultural resources in order to provide the State's citizens with: preservation of the character and quality of life of the State, improved educational resources and access to them; and expanded community and economic development opportunities. The program would fall under the auspices of and be monitored and evaluated by the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council, a legislatively mandated public board that coordinates the needs of the State's public cultural resources. The participating agencies in the program would be the Maine Arts Commission, the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, the Maine State Library, the Maine State Museum, the Maine Historical Society, the Maine State Archives and the Maine Humanities Council. The program would provide matching grants, technical assistance and other services to local, nonprofit, community-based organizations. The bill also proposed an appropriation section.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-66) proposed that the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. The amendment also proposed a fiscal note to the bill.

The contents of the bill (but not the reporting requirement of the committee amendment) were included in the Part II Budget bill, Public Law 1999, Chapter 401, Part LLL, and this bill was indefinitely postponed.

LD 632

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Finance Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

**RESOLVE 14
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-107

LD 632 proposed to provide for legislative review of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education. These rules govern the application and approval process for projects to be considered through the School Revolving Renovation Fund; Facility Maintenance and Capital Improvement Programs; Maine School Facilities Finance Program and lease and lease/purchase of temporary interim space and small nonadministrative space.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-107) proposed to authorize final adoption of rule Chapter 64 with amendments that clarify the purpose of the State Planning Office analyses that must be included in the 10-year capital plan and that may be included in the supporting materials as part of a school administrative unit's application for the School Revolving Renovation Fund.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 14 authorizes the final adoption of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education. These rules govern the application and approval process for projects to be considered through the School Revolving Renovation Fund; Facility Maintenance and Capital Improvement Programs; Maine School Facilities Finance Program and lease and lease/purchase of temporary interim space and small nonadministrative space.

LD 664 **An Act to Fully Fund Implementation of All Learning Results Standards and Reimburse Professional Development Costs** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUGLASS	ONTP	

LD 664 proposed to require the State to fully fund the costs of implementing the system of learning results and related professional development costs.

LD 681 **An Act to Fund Public School Alliances** **P & S 56**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNON DAGGETT	OTP-AM	H-95 S-402 MICHAUD

LD 681 proposed to make General Fund appropriations to the Department of Education of \$140,000 annually to develop a grant program that will help fund public school alliances such as the Kennebec Alliance.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-95) proposed limiting the number of grants to support public school alliances under the bill to 20 per year and requiring the Department of Education to adopt rules that establish a preference in awarding grants to school alliances that obtain local matching funds.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-402) proposed to reduce the amount of General Fund support for the public school alliance grant program to \$100,000 and delay the beginning of the grant program until fiscal year 2000- 01.