

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

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Phillip D. McCarthy, Ed.D., Legislative Analyst

***Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670***



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

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.

instruction program using English as a second language or bilingual techniques that has been approved by the Commissioner of Education.

The amendment further proposed to require that this adjustment would be limited to the amount of funds appropriated to general purpose aid to local schools for this purpose. The amendment also proposed to permit the Department of Education to prorate payments to school units if insufficient funds are appropriated for this adjustment, but would prohibit the department from redistributing existing appropriations for general purpose aid to local schools if insufficient funds are appropriated for this purpose.

The provisions of the bill and a General Fund appropriation were included in the Part II Budget bill (see P.L. 1999, chapter 401, Part JJ), and this bill as amended was indefinitely postponed.

LD 1261 **An Act to Require the Training of School Personnel Who Administer Medications** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1261 proposes to require unlicensed school personnel to be trained before administering medication to students in Maine's public schools and approved private schools. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session.

LD 1263 **An Act to Ensure Fairness in Calculating the Income Factor in the School Funding Formula** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CATHCART DUNLAP		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1263 proposed to establish an appeals process for school administrative units that question the accuracy of the local median household income data used to determine their unit's weighted relative fiscal capacity under the School Finance Act of 1995.

LD 1264 **An Act to Ensure Freedom of Speech and Association on Campus** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON MACK		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1264 proposed to ensure that postsecondary students' rights of speech and association would not be unconstitutionally abridged by postsecondary educational institutions incorporated or chartered by the State. The bill further proposed to define protected speech and association and proposed to describe impermissible institutional interference. It also proposed to set forth court action students may take when their rights are violated.