

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:

Sen. Georgette B. Berube, Chair

Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.

Sen. Mary E. Small

Rep. Michael F. Brennan, Chair

Rep. Shirley K. Richard

Rep. Mabel J. Desmond

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Rep. Irvin G. Belanger

Rep. Mary Black Andrews

Rep. Carol Weston

Staff:

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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.

LD 1269**An Act To Improve Indoor Air Quality in Schools****ONTP**

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

LD 1269 proposed that school administrative units be required to maintain and operate every school's heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC) to provide the quality of indoor air required by OSHA, NIOSH and ASHRAE standards for air flow, quality, composition and exchange rate. The bill also proposed monthly monitoring of HVAC by the schools and reports to DHS, prompt review by DHS and development of corrective action plans when appropriate. Corrective action was to have been completed in 30 days or a civil violation and fine would result.

LD 1287**An Act to Use State Educational Facilities Efficiently****ONTP**

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

LD 1287 proposed to require that any higher education institution within the University of Maine System that seeks to sell or dispose of any real property should first attempt to transfer its rights or interests in such property to another institution within the University of Maine System. Under this bill, any higher education institution within the University of Maine System could have acquired such property by agreeing to assume all financial responsibility necessary to maintain the property. The property transfer would have to be approved by the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System.

LD 1297**An Act to Provide for Timely Implementation of the Maine College Savings Program****ONTP**

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

LD 1297 proposed to amend the Maine College Savings Program, which was established last year. That program provides an opportunity for parents to save and invest tax-free toward payment of future college costs for their children. The Finance Authority of Maine was charged with the responsibility of administering the program. The bill proposed that if the Finance Authority of Maine fails to fully implement the college savings program by May 1, 1999, responsibility for administering the program would be transferred to the Maine Educational Loan Authority.

LD 1305**An Act to Establish and Fund Conflict Resolution Education and Civil Rights Team Programs in the Public Schools****CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WATSON LONGLEY		