

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.

before every school year indicating that records will be sent to the new school when a student applies for a transfer. This bill was given an ONTP committee report because this issue was addressed in another bill; see LD 1798.

LD 1553

An Act to Amend the Definition of "Parent" in the Laws Governing Education

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE	ONTP MAJ	
WHEELER G	OTP MIN	

LD 1553 proposed to amend the definition of "parent" in the laws governing education.

LD 1554

An Act to Create a Professional Development Fund for Maine Teachers

ONTP

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

LD 1554 proposed to establish and fund the Fund for the Professional Development of Maine Teachers. The fund would have provided matching grants to school administrative units to be used for locally conceived professional development programs for teachers in order to better implement the system of learning results for public schools. The bill also proposed to establish standards by which applications for grants for professional development programs for teachers will be judged.

LD 1559

An Act to Establish a Maine Student Leadership Pilot Program

ONTP

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

LD 1559 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposed to authorize the Department of Education to contract with tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations to provide nontraditional, experiential education programs designed to increase high school students' leadership, team-building, community service, environmental stewardship and ethical decision-making abilities. The bill proposed that the department develop a pilot program to test the process for determining how, how many and which high schools would be selected to participate in the program. A General Fund appropriation of \$300,000 was proposed in the bill for the Department of Education for the 2000-2001 biennium to implement the program.

LD 1561

An Act to Require High School Students to Earn a Certificate of Mastery CARRIED OVER Before Graduating

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AMERO		
MURPHY T		