

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

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Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.

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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.

1. One thousand dollars for students attending public institutions of higher education within the State;
2. One thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars for students attending private institutions of higher education within the State;
3. Five hundred dollars for students attending public institutions of higher education outside the State; and
4. One thousand dollars for students attending private institutions of higher education outside the State.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 233 restores the statutory provision that required student incentive scholarships awarded to students attending private institutions of higher education to be greater than the amount of scholarships awarded to students attending public institutions of higher education. Under this law, the minimum amount requirement of the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program is repealed and replaced with a minimum award provision that establishes a differential rate for minimum scholarship amounts that are based on the status of the higher education institution where the eligible student is enrolled. The varying minimum award amounts under the Maine Student Incentive Scholarship Program must be determined as follows:

1. One thousand dollars for students attending public institutions of higher education within the State;
2. One thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars for students attending private institutions of higher education within the State;
3. Five hundred dollars for students attending public institutions of higher education outside the State; and
4. One thousand dollars for students attending private institutions of higher education outside the State.

Chapter 233 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 18, 1999.

LD 1815

Resolve, to Create Grants for the Creation of After-school Child Care Programs in Public Elementary and Middle Schools

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'NEIL	ONTP	

LD 1815 proposed to establish a grant program in the Department of Education to assist school administrative units with the start-up costs of establishing after-school child care centers in public schools. Each school unit would be eligible for a grant of up to \$3,000 in either of the next two school years.

LD 1826

An Act to Adjust and Modify the School Funding Formula

ONTP

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

LD 1826 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposed to replace the School Finance Act of 1985 and the School Finance Act of 1995 with a school funding formula that would be designed using the concepts contained