

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

JULY 2000

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*Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.*

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**July 2000**

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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](http://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:

- 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
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- 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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

**Enacted law summary**

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 100 appropriates \$171,000 on a one-time basis to be applied toward a principal payment remaining on a \$3,000,000 dormitory at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 100 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 18, 2000.

**LD 2398**

**An Act to Expand Educational Opportunities for Elderly Persons**

**DIED ON  
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRENNAN		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2398 proposed to provide a General Fund appropriation of \$150,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 to the University of Maine System for the operations of the Senior College. While this bill died on adjournment, the funding proposed in the bill was included in the supplemental appropriations bill in fiscal year 2000-01 (see Public Law 1999, chapter 731, part A, section A-1).

**LD 2401**

**An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Change of a Cost-sharing Formula in a School Administrative District**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TUTTLE MACKINNON		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2401 proposed that a cost-sharing formula for a school administrative district may be changed only if the change is approved by a majority of those voting in each of the municipalities in a school administrative district referendum. Current law provides that such a change may occur if approved by a majority vote of the district. The committee requested the State Board of Education to conduct a study of the process for changing SAD and CSD cost sharing formulas and to report back to the committee later this year.

**LD 2414**

**An Act to Support and Expand the Maine Writing Project**

**P & S 78**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GREEN CATHCART		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-859
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LD 2414 was referred to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and proposed to provide funds to support and expand the Maine Writing Project. The Maine Writing Project follows the National Writing Project model of collaborative university and school programs, the goals of which are to improve