

# 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**

***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*

*Rep. James G. Skoglund*

*Rep. Elizabeth Watson*

*Rep. Christina L. Baker*

*Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman*

*Rep. Irvin G. Belanger*

*Rep. Mary Black Andrews*

*Rep. Carol Weston*

***Staff:***

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

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis*

*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**  
**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

student achievement in learning and writing, which is a major feature of the Maine Learning Results and the Maine Educational Assessment.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-859)** proposed to decrease the amount appropriated to the Maine Writing Project from \$10,000 to \$5,000 and further proposed to require that the money appropriated must be supplemented by funds provided by the University of Maine System of \$4,500 in fiscal year 2000-01 in the form of scholarships for teachers in the Maine Writing Project.

The amendment also proposed to add a General Fund deappropriation of \$5,000 in fiscal year 2000-01 from the Professional Development program within the Department of Education and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

***Enacted law summary***

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 78 decreases the amount appropriated to the Maine Writing Project from \$10,000 to \$5,000 and further requires that the money appropriated must be supplemented by funds provided by the University of Maine System of \$4,500 in fiscal year 2000-01 in the form of scholarships for teachers in the Maine Writing Project. The law also deappropriates \$5,000 in General Funds in fiscal year 2000-01 from the Professional Development program within the Department of Education.

**LD 2425**

**An Act to Amend a Formula to Allocate Child Development Funds**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SULLIVAN		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2425 proposed to prohibit the Department of Education from adopting rules that decrease the amount of funding allocated to a Child Development Services Regional Site from the previous fiscal year. The prohibition on funding decreases would be retroactive to the effective date of Public Law 1999, chapter 296 that required the development of a funding formula for CDS sites and adoption of rules to implement the formula. The bill also proposed appropriating \$300,000 to Child Development Services System regional sites in York County to cover a shortfall in funding from the previous fiscal year.

**LD 2429**

**An Act to Address the Teacher Shortage in Maine**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LAVERDIERE		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2429 proposed to establish the Teachers for Critical and Qualifying Areas Program to provide for the repayment of student loans to teachers who are hired in schools that are faced with a shortage of teachers in certain academic areas. Once the Commissioner of Education makes the determination that a school is a critical area school or qualifying area school, a teacher hired by that school to work in the underserved academic area would have been eligible for repayment of student loans incurred for postsecondary education. A teacher working in a critical area school who works for 4 years in the school would have been