

# 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:***

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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

**An Act to Implement Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs Relating to the Review of the State Cultural and Other Agencies under the State Government Evaluation Act**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2661 proposed to implement the recommendations made by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs as a result of the committee's review of state cultural agencies and other agencies under the State Government Evaluation Act. The bill proposed to:

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 706 implements the recommendations made by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs as a result of the committee's review of state cultural agencies and other agencies under the State Government Evaluation Act. The law:

1. Repeals the law establishing the Maine Conservation School; the school will continue as a nonprofit corporation operating under general Maine law;
2. Reduces the term of members of the Maine State Museum Commission from 6 years to 4 years, establishes a 2-term limit for members and provides for the transition from the old law to the new law;
3. Repeals obsolete provisions and enacts an updated law governing the qualifications, appointment and duties of the State Historian;
4. Increases from \$40,000 to \$50,000 the cap on Percent for Art Program projects for public schools that elect to participate in the program; and
5. Provides for a separate annual budget line for the Maine Humanities Council.

**An Act to Establish the Council on Children and Families and to Ensure the Continuation of the Governor's Children's Cabinet**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

S-780 MICHAUD

LD 2679 proposed to establish the Council on Children and Families to advise the Governor, certain state departments, the Legislature and the judiciary regarding the following goals: to encourage a coordinated system of education and services for children and families, to evaluate the allocation of resources, to promote coordinated budgets and policy, to evaluate program effectiveness and to promote an informal information exchange. The proposed membership of 13 includes 5 commissioners of state departments, a judge and 7 Legislators. Staffing is proposed to be provided primarily by the Governor's office, which would also administer the budget. The bill further proposed to ensure that the Governor's Children's Cabinet, and the resultant collaboration on children's policy development and program implementation that