

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

May 2002

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120th Legislature
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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:

<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1

An Act to Phase Out Community Income Considerations from the School Funding Formula

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J LAVERDIERE	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

LD 1 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to phase out over a 3-year period the consideration of local median household income and proposed to increase by an equal percentage the reliance on property values in determining the local contribution portion of the school funding formula.

LD 466

An Act to Remove Liability from School Units When Releasing Information on School Employees Accused of Crimes

ONTP

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

LD 466 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to allow a school administrative unit to release confidential information about an employee or former employee to another school administrative unit for the purpose of a reference for employment.

LD 475

An Act to Hold the Bureau of General Services Accountable for Services Provided for School Construction Projects

PUBLIC 506

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NASS LONGLEY	OTP-AM	H-814

LD 475 proposed to specify that the fee assessed a school administrative unit by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services for services associated with a school construction project may not exceed \$15,000. The bill also proposed to require the Bureau of General Services to furnish reports to the project unit school board and the State Board of Education concerning the services provided on school construction projects.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-814) proposed to remove from the bill the \$15,000 cap on fees charged by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services for services associated with a school construction project. It also proposed to require the State Board of Education, the Bureau of General Services and the Department of Education to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters by December 31, 2002 on the results of a survey to assess the level of satisfaction for school construction services provided by the bureau. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.