

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

August 2001

Members:

Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell, Chair

Sen. John M. Nutting

Sen. Margaret Rotundo

Rep. Shirley K. Richard, Chair

Rep. Mabel J. Desmond

Rep. James G. Skoglund

Rep. Elizabeth Watson

Rep. Stephen C. Estes

Rep. Glenn Cummings

Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman

Rep. Mary Black Andrews

Rep. Carol Weston

Rep. Mary Ellen Ledwin

Rep. Donald G. Soctomah

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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120th Legislature
First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001

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 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*
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is **September 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 403 requires that Maine Native American history and culture be taught in all elementary and secondary schools and establishes a study commission to identify and explore available materials and resources for Maine educators to use in implementing these instructional areas. The law authorizes the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission to carry out the study commission and requires the study commission recommendations to include a plan to assist the Department of Education in helping school administrative units implement instruction in Maine Native American studies. The plan for assistance must be established by July 30, 2004 and implemented during the 2004-2005 school year. Finally, the law allows a school administrative unit to delay implementation of instruction in Maine Native American studies if implementation of the component topics can not be achieved within existing local resources and requires the Department of Education to develop a reporting mechanism that permits a school administrative unit to report such a delay to the department at no cost to the unit.

LD 329

An Act to Increase the Number of Teachers

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHOREY GOODWIN	ONTP	

LD 329 proposed to require the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the University of Maine System to create a program to encourage retired military personnel to seek teacher certification and to teach in the State.

LD 334

An Act to Provide Incentives to Families Who Save for College

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CATHCART SAXL	ONTP	

LD 334 was re-referred from the Taxation Committee. The bill proposed to provide an income tax deduction for 10%, up to an aggregate maximum of \$2,000, of the amount contributed to a college savings account established under the Maine College Savings Program administered by the Treasurer of State and the Finance Authority of Maine. The bill also proposed to require the authority to provide information to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services for purposes of verifying eligibility for the deduction. The bill further proposed to make technical changes to resolve a conflict in the law.