

# 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*

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*Rep. Mary Black Andrews*

*Rep. Carol Weston*

*Rep. Mary Ellen Ledwin*

*Rep. Donald G. Soctomah*

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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](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:

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

LD 1032

**An Act to Allow Unexpended Balances in Funds Appropriated for a School Breakfast Incentive Grants Program to Carry Forward into Subsequent Years to be Used for School Breakfast Grants to Schools** **DIED ON ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SNOWE-MELLO	OTP-AM	H-293

LD 1032 proposed to increase the state subsidy for public school food service programs per pupil to 3¢ with 1.5¢ dedicated to breakfast programs, and to require the Department of Education to examine food service program delivery to increase student participation rates. The bill also proposed to direct the department to establish a school breakfast program and to develop a pilot universal school lunch program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-293)** proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to retroactively amend an appropriation for a school breakfast incentive grant program included in a 1999 supplemental budget to allow unexpended balances in that account to carry forward from year to year to be used for school breakfast incentive grants. Without this retroactive amendment, those unexpended balances would lapse to the General Fund. This amendment did not propose to appropriate any new money for that program.

**LD 1043**

**An Act to Increase Access to Higher Education**

**P & S 40**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAXL	OTP-AM MAJ	H-656
CATHCART	ONTP MIN	S-401 DAGGETT

LD 1043 proposed to establish the Maine Education Foundation and the Maine Education Endowment Fund to provide eligible Maine residents with the financial resources to access postsecondary education opportunities and achieve higher levels of educational attainment. The bill proposed to accomplish the following.

1. It establishes an 11-member board of directors to advise the Chief Executive Officer of the Maine Education Foundation on the operation of the foundation programs and investment of the endowment fund.
2. It provides that endowment funds be allocated to qualified institutions of higher education in the State and qualifying nonprofit corporations for the purpose of implementing a supplemental incentive grant program that targets these funds to a student's unmet need or supplemental education loan balance. These funds may not supplant scholarships, grants or other nonloan sources of financial assistance, but must be applied to an eligible student's unmet need or supplemental education loan balance.
3. It establishes an internship program for postsecondary education students with public and private sector organizations and institutions throughout the State. Students who participate in a qualified internship may be eligible for forgiveness of all or part of their student loans.
4. It authorizes the foundation to establish a clearinghouse for postsecondary education programs and student financial assistance, and to foster the leadership capacity of public and private sector agencies and

## Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

organizations and the capacity of institutions of higher education in the State to accomplish the postsecondary education enrollment, educational attainment and economic development goals of the State.

5. It authorizes the foundation to establish a request for proposal process for administering student financial assistance programs with proceeds from the endowment fund, including researching and tracking the outcomes of the student financial assistance programs.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-656)** proposed to strike and replace the bill. The amendment proposed to establish the Maine Scholarship Foundation and the Maine Scholarship Endowment Fund to provide eligible Maine residents with the financial resources to access postsecondary education opportunities and attain higher levels of education. The amendment proposed to accomplish the following.

1. It establishes a 9-member board of directors of the Maine Scholarship Foundation to direct the operation of the foundation programs and investment of the endowment fund.
2. It provides that endowment funds be allocated to public institutions of higher education in the State and to qualifying nonprofit corporations for the purpose of establishing scholarship programs that provide endowment funds and funds from matching gifts to reduce the unmet financial need of Maine residents enrolled in public and private institutions of higher education in the State.
3. It provides that the Finance Authority of Maine shall provide staffing assistance to the board of directors of the foundation; and further directs the foundation to integrate information regarding the scholarship programs funded by the foundation with the clearinghouse established by the Finance Authority of Maine on postsecondary education programs and student financial assistance resources in the State; and
4. It authorizes the foundation to establish a request for proposal process for administering student financial assistance programs with proceeds from the endowment fund, including researching and tracking the outcomes of the student financial assistance programs.

It proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**Senate Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-401)** proposed to provide a General Fund appropriation to the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute to benefit Maine residents attending institutions of higher education.

### *Enacted law summary*

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 40 provides a General Fund appropriation of \$1,500,000 as a grant to the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute to provide scholarship funds to benefit Maine residents attending institutions of higher education.