

# 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:**

*Phillip D. McCarthy, Legislative Analyst*

*Julie Read Marsh, 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

**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

Resolve 2001, chapter 16 directs the Maine Arts Commission to consult with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs, the Maine Performing Arts Network and other interested parties to review the feasibility of establishing a program to provide grants to fairs to assist in paying the fees charged by artists who perform at fairs. The goals of the program are to assist fairs to pay for performing artists, to provide an incentive for fairs to choose local performing artists and to assist local artists to become more widely known through advertising and promotional events. The law directs the commission to report its findings by February 1, 2002 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and authorizes that committee to report out legislation on that subject to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

**LD 1134**

### **An Act to Create Equity Among all Children in Need of Special Education or Supportive Services**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RICHARDSON		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1134 proposed to require the Department of Education to amend its rules to provide equivalent special education and supportive services to all students whether they are in a public school, private school or home school. It also proposed to correct a reference to the former Protection and Advocacy Agency for the Developmentally Disabled in Maine and correct a cross-reference.

**LD 1163**

### **An Act to Accelerate the Construction of New Schools**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TURNER FOSTER		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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1163 proposed to establish specific time frames and a time line for the State Board of Education, the Department of Education and school administrative units in the State to review and approve the necessary requirements under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 609 so that school administrative units may begin construction for certain state-supported school construction projects. The bill proposed to accomplish the following.

1. Require that state agencies responsible for approving plans and specifications review the required plans and specifications in a school construction application and approve or disapprove the application within 60 days of receiving it.
2. Provide that the state board, the department, school administrative units and school boards make every reasonable effort to complete the review, local vote, approval and any other requirements necessary so that construction may begin within 12 months of the Legislature's action approving maximum debt service limits.