

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

LD 1301

An Act to Implement Changes in Cost-sharing Agreements in School Districts

PUBLIC 375

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RICHARD MITCHELL B	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-628
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LD 1301 proposed to implement recommendations of a study of methods of changing cost-sharing formulas in school administrative districts and community school districts conducted by the State Board of Education. The bill proposed to accomplish the following:

1. Provide an option for municipal members of a school district to design a cost-sharing formula that fits local needs without requiring legislative approval;
3. Require the locally developed cost-sharing option to be approved by majority referendum vote in each municipality in the district, rather than by majority vote at a district-wide meeting;
4. Provide the assistance of outside professional facilitation services if local officials are unable to agree on cost-sharing changes; and
5. Require the Department of Education to provide comprehensive, unbiased cost-sharing information and other assistance to districts and municipalities considering cost-sharing changes.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-628) proposed to add a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 375 implements recommendations of a study of methods of changing cost-sharing formulas in school administrative districts and community school districts conducted by the State Board of Education. The law:

1. Provides an option for municipal members of a school district to design a cost-sharing formula that fits local needs without requiring legislative approval;
2. Requires the locally developed cost-sharing option to be approved by majority referendum vote in each municipality in the district, rather than by majority vote at a district-wide meeting;
3. Provides the assistance of outside professional facilitation services if local officials are unable to agree on cost-sharing changes; and
4. Requires the Department of Education to provide comprehensive, unbiased cost-sharing information and other assistance to districts and municipalities considering cost-sharing changes.