

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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Maine State Legislature
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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 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.

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:

- 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
PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 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 889

An Act to Establish a Mandated Minimum for Teachers' Salaries

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAKER MICHAUD MH	ONTP	

LD 889 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to establish a mandatory minimum salary of \$25,000 for certified teachers and to provide a block grant of \$800 per teacher to each school administrative unit for teachers' salaries.

LD 1089

An Act to Improve Taxpayer Equity in School Funding

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ABROMSON ETNIER	ONTP	

LD 1089 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to increase the weight of the income factor in the school funding formula from 15% to 25%. This bill also proposed to use the cost-of-living factor to adjust a municipality's property values. This bill further proposed to require the State to use a school unit's weighted relative fiscal capacity to calculate a unit's local share of program costs.

LD 1471

An Act to Create a Digital Library to Meet the Educational,
Research, Business and Economic Needs of Maine

PUBLIC 522

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN EDMONDS		H-767

LD 1471 was referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. This bill proposed to provide an annual General Fund appropriation of \$2,500,000 to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to be used for the creation of a digital library collection to support its educational, research and public service missions.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-767) proposed to strike and replace the bill. The amendment proposed to make changes to the provisions of law that address the uses and guidelines for the telecommunications education access fund. Specifically the amendment proposed to accomplish the following:

1. Authorize the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine as a qualified recipient of telecommunications education access funds;
2. Require the Public Utilities Commission to order the National Exchange Carrier Association to transfer \$500,000 from the unexpended balance of the telecommunications education access fund no later than

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

June 30, 2002 and \$500,000 no later than June 30, 2003 to the University of Maine System for the infrastructure needs associated with creating a digital library;

3. Direct the Maine State Library and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine to work cooperatively to provide access technology as well as licensing agreements to acquire publicly available databases to be used for the purposes of accessing information by schools and libraries; and
4. Add an appropriation and allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2001, chapter 522 amends provisions of law that address the uses and guidelines for the telecommunications education access fund. The law accomplishes the following:

1. It authorizes the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine as a qualified recipient of telecommunications education access funds;
2. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to order the National Exchange Carrier Association to transfer \$500,000 from the unexpended balance of the telecommunications education access fund no later than June 30, 2002 and \$500,000 no later than June 30, 2003 to the University of Maine System for the infrastructure needs associated with creating a digital library; and
3. It directs the Maine State Library and the Raymond H. Fogler Library at the University of Maine to work cooperatively to provide access technology as well as licensing agreements to acquire publicly available databases to be used for the purposes of accessing information by schools and libraries.

Public Law 2002, chapter 522 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 12, 2002.

LD 1486

An Act to Create the Child Development Services Advisory Committee

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
FULLER
CATHCART

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1486 was carried over from the First Regular Session and proposed to establish the Child Development Services Advisory Committee to provide advice to the Department of Education concerning a comprehensive and collaborative early intervention system of services.