

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

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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 1403 **Resolve, to Establish the Task Force on School Governance** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN TURNER	ONTP	

LD 1403 proposed to create a task force to review the structure of school governance in the State through the roles of the school board, superintendent, principals, teachers and the broader school community.

LD 1474 **An Act to Provide Students Tuition Grants Based on Performance on the Maine Educational Assessment** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN SMALL	ONTP	

LD 1474 proposed to establish the Maine Educational Assessment Scholarship Fund to provide a \$500 tuition grant at a public or private postsecondary educational institution in this State or outside of the State to any student in the 11th grade who performs at the distinguished level on the educational assessment test or any student in the 11th grade who performs at one or more performance levels higher than that student performed in the 8th grade on the educational assessment test. The bill further proposed to provide that the Commissioner of Education annually identify eligible students and notify the Finance Authority of Maine of the names of those students who are eligible to receive a tuition grant. Eligible students would have been awarded the tuition grants upon the successful completion of one semester during which the eligible students made satisfactory academic progress.

LD 1481 **An Act to Permit the Ten Commandments to be Posted in Public Schools** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDOUGALL DAVIS P	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1481 proposed a referendum question to the general voters to allow the prominent display of the Ten Commandments of the Bible in public schools, which by definition of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1, subsection 24 means a school governed by a school board of a school administrative unit and funded primarily with public funds.