

# 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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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

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 534 amends the law regarding the certification for school administrators and teachers by incorporating performance standards for provisional teacher certification and allows the State Board of Education to determine competency areas for school administrators. The rules governing certification of provisional teachers, superintendents, principals and directors of vocational education are designated as major substantive rules.

**LD 2033**

**An Act to Create the Adult Education Outreach Grant Program**

**INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SAXL MICHAUD MH	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-774
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LD 2033 was referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. This bill proposed to appropriate \$200,000 in funding to the Department of Education to create the Adult Education Outreach Grant Program. The purpose of the proposed program would be to provide competitive grants to local adult education programs that encourage their students to continue their education beyond the high school level.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-774)**, which was the majority report of the committee, proposed to require the Department of Education, under the community college concept, to consult with the University of Maine System, the Maine Technical College System and the adult education directors as part of the grant approval process for the Adult Education Outreach Program. It also proposed to require the department to submit a report by January 15, 2004 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters to evaluate the success of the Adult Education Outreach Grant Program. It also proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 2042**

**An Act to Make Technical Changes to the Maine State Grant Program**

**PUBLIC 480**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ROTUNDO RICHARD	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2042 proposed to amend the provisions of the student incentive scholarship program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine by eliminating the need that the student applicant be eligible for a Pell Grant to receive an award under the program.

## Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 480 amends the provisions of the student incentive scholarship program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine by eliminating the need that the student applicant be eligible for a Pell Grant to receive an award under the program.

**LD 2043**

**Resolve, to Study School Administrative Unit Organization in  
Maine**

**RESOLVE 80**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL B	OTP-AM MAJ	S-428
RICHARD	ONTP MIN	H-843 DUPLESSIE

LD 2043 proposed to create a study group to examine school administrative unit organization in the State. It proposed that the study group research the history of formation of districts and participation in regional collaboratives in the State and in other states that may be applicable in the State. It proposed that the study group recommend incentives that might be used in the State to promote organizational characteristics that can be demonstrated to support high levels of student outcomes and efficient use of resources and to maintain school administrative units that already exhibit these organizational characteristics. It proposed that the study group also submit a preliminary report to the joint standing committee of the Legislative having jurisdiction over education matters by January 31, 2003 and a final report by January 20, 2004.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-428)**, which was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to make the following changes to the resolve:

1. Clarify that the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the State Board of Education jointly appoint members of the study group from a list of candidates recommended by nominating authorities;
2. Provide that the nominating authorities select nominees who have experience working with or special knowledge of one or more types of school administrative unit or regional collaboratives;
3. Provide that the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the State Board of Education give proper consideration to achieving statewide geographical representation in appointing members to the study group;
4. Provide that, when the appointment of all study group members is complete, the cochairs of the study group call and convene the first meeting of the study group;
5. Provide that the study group also investigate any existing disincentives to forming regional collaboratives and identify strategies that may be applicable to removing or overcoming these disincentives;
6. Provide that the study group consider the recommendations presented in the preliminary and final reports of the task force on school governance convened by the State Board of Education; and