

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

*Second Regular Session and
Second Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

May 2004

Staff:

*Phillip D. McCarthy, Legislative Analyst
Nicole A. Dube, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

Members:

*Sen. Neria R. Douglass, Chair
Sen. Michael F. Brennan
Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

*Rep. Glenn A. Cummings, Chair
Rep. Rosita Gagne-Friel
Rep. Jacqueline R. Norton
Rep. Jonathan Thomas
Rep. Edward D. Finch
Rep. Jeremy Fischer
Rep. Mary Black Andrews
Rep. Thomas W. Murphy, Jr.
Rep. Mary Ellen Ledwin
Rep. Gerald M. Davis*

Maine State Legislature



*Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis
Office Of Fiscal And Program Review*

*121st Maine Legislature
Second Regular Session and
Second Special Session*

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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/billsumm.htm).

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*
- 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 that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is April 30, 2004; and non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Special Session is July 30, 2004. Four bills (LD's 1572, 1629, 1636 and 1637) that were considered at the First Special Session in August 2003 are also included in these summaries.

David C. Elliott, Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 45 extends the time by which school administrative units may request upgrades to higher classifications for persons employed as teacher assistants or as teacher associates before September 1, 1991 who were otherwise eligible for upgrades under the provision of law enacted by Private and Special Law 1995, chapter 35 but who were not recommended for promotions due to an error on the part of a school administrative unit.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 45 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 15, 2004.

Note: Public Law 2003, chapter 688, part J, which enacted LD 1916, (An Act to Make Additional Corrections of Errors and Inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine), corrects Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 45 by clarifying that this extension of time to request upgrades to higher classifications also pertains to persons employed as teacher assistants or as teacher associates before September 1, 1991 who were otherwise eligible for upgrades under the provision of law enacted by Private and Special Law 1995, chapter 35 but who were not recommended for promotions due to an error on the part of a private school approved by the Department of Education.

Public Law 2003, chapter 688, part J, was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 7, 2004.

LD 1946

An Act To facilitate Summer Employment for Youths

PUBLIC 617

Sponsor(s)
MCGOWAN

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted
H-826 CUMMINGS

LD 1946 proposed to require school administrative units to develop and approve plans for a regional school calendar by September 2005. The law also proposed to direct the Commissioner of Education to develop major substantive rules to implement these regional school calendars for sending schools and career and technical education programs in the State.

This bill was reported out "Ought To Pass in New Draft" by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs as authorized by the Presiding Officers (see LD 195).

House Amendment "A" (H-826) proposed to incorporate a new fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 617 requires school administrative units to develop and approve plans for a regional school calendar by September 2005. The law also directs the Commissioner of Education to develop major substantive rules to implement these regional school calendars for sending schools and career and technical education programs in the State.