

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

August 2005

Members:

Sen. Elizabeth H. Mitchell, Chair

Sen. Elizabeth M. Schneider

Sen. Karl W. Turner

Rep. Jacqueline R. Norton, Chair

Rep. Edward D. Finch

Rep. Elaine Makas

Rep. Emily Ann Cain

Rep. Connie Goldman

Rep. Barbara E. Merrill

Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman

Rep. Gerald M. Davis

Rep. Peter Edgecomb

Rep. Scott E. Lansley

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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 June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 921

An Act To Restructure the Board of Trustees of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics

PUBLIC 129

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CUMMINGS BRYANT B	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-188
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LD 921 proposed restructuring the Board of Trustees of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, changing the number of members of the general public from 8 to 9 and removing the President of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation as a member.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-188) proposed additional changes to the Board of Trustees of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 129 restructures the Board of Trustees of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, changing the number of members appointed by the Governor from the general public to 10 and specifying that one of the 10 must be a graduate of the school and one must be a parent of a student or recent graduate of the school. The law also removes the President of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation and the President of the Maine Community College System as board members.

LD 931

An Act To Ensure Equitable Treatment of Students by Private Secondary Schools with a Majority of Students Funded by the State

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WALCOTT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 931, which was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposed to require private high schools that receive the majority of their students as publicly funded tuition students to follow the same state education rules that public high schools follow.

LD 951

An Act To Amend Adjustments to Transportation Costs under the School Funding Formula

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLS J	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 951 proposed to change the definition of "predicted per-pupil transportation costs" for purposes of determining state funding by allowing adjustments for an unusual number of one-way or dead-end runs and any other factors that could cause an undue burden on the school administrative unit.