

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 979

An Act To Fund Youth Mentoring Programs

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> FISCHER EDMONDS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-332
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LD 979 proposes establishing the Maine Mentoring Partnership Grant Program administered by the Department of Education through the Maine Mentoring Partnership to provide grants to eligible entities for mentoring programs that provide guidance, support and encouragement to young people through the development of structured relationships. As proposed, grants would range from \$1,000 to \$75,000, depending on financial need.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-332) incorporates a fiscal note.

This bill and its adopted amendments were carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S.P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

LD 981

An Act To Add an Organizational Name to the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

PUBLIC 279

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CUMMINGS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-481
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LD 981 proposed to change the name of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing but retain the old name for the center school on Mackworth Island. The name change was intended to better reflect the range of services provided to the deaf and hard-of-hearing pursuant to state law.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-481) proposed to change the title of the bill and proposed to strike and replace the bill to provide an expanded organizational name to the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf in order to better reflect the range of programs and services provided to the deaf and hard-of-hearing pursuant to state law. The expanded name of the organization was proposed to be the Maine Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf. The amendment also proposed to retain the name Governor Baxter School for the Deaf for the center school located on Mackworth Island. The amendment also proposed to correct cross-references in the statutes to reflect the name change.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 279 provides an expanded organizational name to the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf in order to better reflect the range of programs and services provided to the deaf and hard-of-hearing pursuant to State law. The expanded name of the organization is the Maine Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf. The law also retains the name Governor Baxter School for the Deaf for the center school located on Mackworth Island.