

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Education and Cultural Affairs*

July 2006

Members:

Sen. Elizabeth H. Mitchell, Chair

Sen. Elizabeth M. Schneider

Sen. Karl W. Turner

Rep. Jacqueline R. Norton, Chair

Rep. Edward D. Finch

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Rep. Emily Ann Cain

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Maine State Legislature

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122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular 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 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
ONT P.....	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 (Pocket Veto).....	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 August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1381

An Act To Update Teachers' Minimum Salaries

PUBLIC 635

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL	OTP-AM A	S-577
DAVIS G	ONTP B	S-620 MITCHELL
	OTP-AM C	

LD 1381, which was carried over by H.P. 1203 to any special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature, proposed to update the law that established a minimum teachers' salary, starting in 1987, of \$15,500, an amount that is now outdated and proposed to increase the amount to \$30,000. The bill also proposed to establish a method for future periodic updating of the minimum salary amount and proposed to outline procedures for the distribution of funds for teachers' salaries.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-577), which was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, proposed to strike and replace the bill to accomplish the following.

1. It proposed to establish a minimum salary for certified teachers at \$30,000 for the school year starting June 30, 2006.
2. It proposed to repeal statutory language that would limit the amount a school administrative unit could be required to increase the salary of any teacher to no more than \$500 in one school year.
3. It proposed to revise the statutes that define the categories of targeted funds within the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act by striking the term “assessment” and replacing it with the term “implementation of a standards-based system” to broaden this targeted fund definition to reflect the work that has been done to implement a standards-based system of educating children in kindergarten through grade 12.
4. It proposed to provide that, for fiscal year 2006-07 only, a portion of targeted funds to implement a standards-based system would be dedicated to the achievement of a minimum teacher salary of \$30,000 per year beginning in the school year starting after June 30, 2006.
5. It proposed to add an appropriations and allocations section that covers the cost of the increase in teachers' salaries.
6. It proposed to amend Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part J to adjust the total allocation of funds to include the minimum teacher salary.

Senate Amendment “A” to Committee Amendment “A” (S-620) proposed to amend Committee Amendment “A” to accomplish the following.

1. It proposed to establish a minimum salary of \$27,000 for certified teachers for the school year starting after June 30, 2006.
2. It proposed to establish a minimum salary of \$30,000 for certified teachers for school years starting after June 30, 2007.
3. It proposed to provide that the intent of the Legislature would be that the State provide 100% of the funding from state General Fund appropriations to achieve the \$27,000 minimum salary for certified teachers for the

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2006-2007 school year and to achieve the \$30,000 minimum salary for certified teachers for the 2007-2008 school year, including dedicating a portion of the targeted funds to implement a standards-based system for fiscal year 2006-07.

4. It proposed to provide that, beginning in school year 2008-2009, the funding necessary to continue to provide the \$30,000 minimum salary for certified teachers who are employed by qualifying school administrative units must be included as an adjustment to the state share provided to qualifying school administrative units in the determination of the state and local shares calculated in accordance with the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.
5. It proposed to provide that, in school year 2009-2010 and each subsequent school year, money from the state General Fund would be allocated to continue this adjustment for the minimum salary for certified teachers who were employed by qualifying school administrative units in school year 2008-2009 and who continued to be employed in the same school administrative units in the subsequent school year.
6. It proposed to indicate that it would be the intent of the Legislature that the 123rd Legislature appropriate at least \$2,118,308 in fiscal year 2007-08 to carry out the purpose of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 13406 and section 15689, subsection 7, paragraph C.
7. It also proposed to indicate that the intent of the Legislature would be that the amount required to meet the employer share of teacher retirement costs attributable to achieving the minimum teacher salary in fiscal year 2006-07 and fiscal year 2007-08 be appropriated or allocated to the Maine State Retirement System in the appropriate fiscal year, including dedicating a portion of the targeted funds to implement a standards-based system in fiscal year 2006-07 to meet the employer share of teacher retirement costs attributable to achieving a \$27,000 minimum teacher salary in fiscal year 2006-07.
8. It proposed to amend Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part J to adjust the total allocation of funds to be distributed in fiscal year 2006-07 under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to include the minimum teacher salary.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 635 updates the law that established a minimum teachers' salary, starting in 1987, of \$15,500, an amount that is now outdated. The law accomplishes the following.

1. It increases the amount to \$27,000 for certified teachers for the school year starting after June 30, 2006; and establishes a minimum salary of \$30,000 for certified teachers for school years starting after June 30, 2007.
2. It repeals statutory language that limits the amount a school administrative unit may be required to increase the salary of any teacher to no more than \$500 in one school year.
3. It provides that the intent of the Legislature is that the State provide 100% of the funding from state General Fund appropriations to achieve the \$27,000 minimum salary for certified teachers for the 2006-2007 school year and to achieve the \$30,000 minimum salary for certified teachers for the 2007-2008 school year, including dedicating a portion of the targeted funds to implement a standards-based system for fiscal year 2006-07.
4. It provides that, beginning in school year 2008-2009, the funding necessary to continue to provide the \$30,000 minimum salary for certified teachers who are employed by qualifying school administrative units

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must be included as an adjustment to the state share provided to qualifying school administrative units in the determination of the state and local shares calculated in accordance with the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

5. It also provides that, in school year 2009-2010 and each subsequent school year, money from the state General Fund must be allocated to continue this adjustment for the minimum salary for certified teachers who were employed by qualifying school administrative units in school year 2008-2009 and who continue to be employed in the same school administrative units in the subsequent school year.
6. It indicates that it is the intent of the Legislature that the 123rd Legislature appropriate at least \$2,118,308 in fiscal year 2007-08 to carry out the purpose of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 13406 and section 15689, subsection 7, paragraph C.
7. It also indicates that the intent of the Legislature is that the amount required to meet the employer share of teacher retirement costs attributable to achieving the minimum teacher salary in fiscal year 2006-07 and fiscal year 2007-08 be appropriated or allocated to the Maine State Retirement System in the appropriate fiscal year, including dedicating a portion of the targeted funds to implement a standards-based system in fiscal year 2006-07 to meet the employer share of teacher retirement costs attributable to achieving a \$27,000 minimum teacher salary in fiscal year 2006-07.
8. The law amends Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part J to adjust the total allocation of funds to be distributed in fiscal year 2006-07 under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to include the minimum teacher salary.

LD 1387

Resolve, To Promote Training Centers for Entrepreneurship

RESOLVE 210

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON J MITCHELL	OTP-AM	H-482 S-666 ROTUNDO

LD 1387, which was carried over on the Special Appropriations Table by S.P. 640 to the next special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature, proposed to include entrepreneurship education principles in the next review of the system of learning results. It proposed to require the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the President of the Maine Community College System to develop an entrepreneurship curriculum to be implemented at all University of Maine System and Maine Community College System campuses and to market community colleges as training centers for business owners and operators. This resolve also proposed to establish the Entrepreneurship Education Task Force comprised of the Commissioner of Education, Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the President of the Maine Community College System. This resolve further proposed to direct the Maine Community College System to implement a statewide entrepreneurship training program that covers key aspects of starting a business; and proposed an appropriation of \$370,000 over 2 years to make the program available to the widest possible audience.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-482) proposed to change the title of the resolve and remove the directives for curriculum development. It proposed to require that the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the President of the Maine Community College System review course offerings relating to entrepreneurship and to promote their campuses as entrepreneur training centers. It also proposed to remove all the directives to the Commissioner of Education regarding entrepreneurship at the elementary and secondary levels.