

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

Staff:

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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 1655

An Act To Establish the Maine Graduate Retention Loan Program

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DIAMOND BRYANT M	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1655 proposed to establish the Maine Graduate Retention Loan Program to provide loans of 75% of tuition and board to certain eligible students enrolled in postsecondary educational institutions who would agree to accept and maintain full-time employment in the State after graduation. The loans could then be forgiven at a rate of 15% per year of eligible employment in the State. The bill proposed to direct the Finance Authority of Maine to administer the program.

LD 1656

Resolve, To Retain Maine's Theater Arts and Dance Teachers

**RESOLVE 96
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PINGREE WOODCOCK	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-520
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LD 1656 proposed to exempt theater teachers who are currently employed from additional requirements imposed by rules adopted by the State Board of Education on April 14, 2004, Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-520) proposed to replace the title of the bill and proposed to change the bill to a resolve that would direct the State Board of Education to amend Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Educational Personnel in order to provide an exemption for certain theater arts and dance teachers who are employed in an accredited public or private school in the State as of October 1, 2005 from additional requirements imposed by rules adopted by the State Board of Education on April 14, 2004 that are scheduled to become effective August 1, 2005.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 96 directs the State Board of Education to amend Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Educational Personnel in order to provide an exemption for certain theater arts and dance teachers who are employed in an accredited public or private school in the State as of October 1, 2005 from additional requirements imposed by rules adopted by the State Board of Education on April 14, 2004 that are scheduled to become effective August 1, 2005.

Resolve 2005, chapter 96 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 7, 2005.