

# 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*

*Rep. Elaine Makas*

*Rep. Emily Ann Cain*

*Rep. Connie Goldman*

*Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman*

*Rep. Gerald M. Davis*

*Rep. Peter Edgecomb*

*Rep. Scott E. Lansley*

*Rep. Barbara E. Merrill*

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# Maine State Legislature



## Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

### 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](http://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 (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*

addition, this bill proposed that, if a school provides an emergency contact form to parents, it would include the opt-out form on the emergency contact form.

**LD 1902**

**An Act Concerning Energy Conservation in Schools**

**PUBLIC 499**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TUTTLE		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-791
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LD 1902 proposed to raise the allowable contract cost for improving school energy conservation or combined energy conservation and air quality improvements from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-791)** proposed to retain the provision in the bill that raises the allowable contract cost for making school energy conservation or combined energy conservation and air quality improvements from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000. The amendment also proposed to decrease the length of the allowable contract from 20 years to 15 years and proposed to clarify that a school administrative unit could enter into such an improvement contract only for an existing school administrative unit facility. It further proposed to provide that a school administrative unit's costs for entering into such an improvement contract would not be applicable to school construction project costs, the debt service on which would be eligible for subsidy purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15907.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 2005, chapter 499 raises the allowable contract cost for improving school energy conservation or combined energy conservation and air quality improvements from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000. The law also decreases the length of the allowable contract from 20 years to 15 years and clarifies that a school administrative unit may enter into such an improvement contract only for an existing school administrative unit facility. The law further provides that a school administrative unit's costs for entering into such an improvement contract are not applicable to school construction project costs, the debt service on which is eligible for subsidy purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15907.

**LD 1903**

**An Act To Restore the Cost-sharing Agreement Established by the Voters of Maine School Administrative District No. 40**

**P & S 38  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLER DOW		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-771
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LD 1903 proposed to reestablish the cost-sharing agreement established in 1992 at a referendum election by the voters of Maine School Administrative District No. 40. That cost-sharing formula apportions all the local share contributions to the school district on the basis of 50% of each town's valuation and 50% of each town's student population. The bill also proposed to preserve the right of the voters of the school district to amend that formula in the future according to the procedures to amend cost-sharing arrangements that are available under current law. Locally approved school administrative district cost-sharing agreements were preempted by Public Law 2003, chapter 712, which first became effective for the 2005-06 school fiscal year. In some districts, that preemption