

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).

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

LD 1978

An Act To Amend the Maine State Grant Program

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL NORTON	ONTP	

LD 1978 proposed to allow the Finance Authority of Maine to allocate up to 15%, rather than 5%, of Maine State Grant Programs funds to make need-based grants to part-time students.

LD 1979

An Act To Allow the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf To Lease Classroom Space to Independent Schools

**PUBLIC 600
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUMMINGS MITCHELL	OTP-AM	H-996

LD 1979 proposed to specifically provide authority to the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf and the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to lease facilities of the school to independent accredited elementary schools. Funds from this type of proposed lease would be used to benefit the consultation services provided to families of children from birth to 5 years of age who are deaf or hard-of-hearing students, consulting services to school administrative units that serve school-age deaf or hard-of-hearing children and services provided through the parent-infant-toddler program, the preschool program and the communication garden program provided at the center school.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-996) proposed to strike and replace the bill. The amendment proposed to provide authority to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to enter into lease agreements for unused school facilities on Mackworth Island. The proposed lease arrangements and funds received from this type of lease would be used in a manner that is consistent with the deed of gift from Governor Baxter and applicable state law regarding excess state property, with any remaining funds being retained by the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf for statutorily authorized programs.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 2005, chapter 600 provides authority to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to enter into lease agreements for unused school facilities on Mackworth Island. The law provides that lease arrangements and funds received from this type of lease must be used in a manner that is consistent with the deed of gift from Governor Baxter and applicable state law regarding excess state property, with any remaining funds being retained by the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf for statutorily authorized programs.

Public Law 2005, chapter 600 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 27, 2006.