

State Of Maine 122nd Legislature

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

July 2006

<u>Members:</u> 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



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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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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	
DIED IN CONCURRENCEOne	body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
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: hill died
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP	
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	Bill held by Governor

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 1988 An Act To Raise the Debt Limit of the City of Brewer High School P & S 42 District

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FISHER	OTP	
ROSEN R		

LD 1988 proposed to amend the private and special law that established the City of Brewer High School District to increase the debt limit of the district from \$5,000,000 to 7.5% of the most recent state valuation of the City of Brewer. This bill proposed to clarify the authority of the City of Brewer to convey property to the district and proposed to authorize the district to enter into agreements with the Federal Government, the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and others to help finance school construction projects in the City of Brewer. This bill also proposed to clarify the authority of the district to renovate and repair its school buildings.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law, chapter 42 amended the private and special law that established the City of Brewer High School District to increase the debt limit of the district from \$5,000,000 to 7.5% of the most recent state valuation of the City of Brewer. The law clarifies the authority of the City of Brewer to convey property to the district and authorizes the district to enter into agreements with the Federal Government, the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and others to help finance school construction projects in the City of Brewer. The law also clarifies the authority of the district to renovate and repair its school buildings.

LD 2012An Act Amending and Restating the Charter of The President and
Trustees of Colby CollegeP & S 45
EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GAGNON	OTP-AM	S-501
CANAVAN		

LD 2012 proposed to amend the charter of The President and Trustees of Colby College to increase the maximum number of trustees from 31 to 35 and to increase the minimum number of trustees from 21 to 24. The bill proposed to clarify that the President of Colby College is a trustee ex officio. The bill also proposed to update the language concerning removal of trustees in a manner consistent with Maine law and repeal Private and Special Law 1959, chapter 42.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-501) proposed to add an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law, chapter 45 amends the charter of The President and Trustees of Colby College to increase the maximum number of trustees from 31 to 35 and to increase the minimum number of trustees from 21 to 24. The law clarifies that the President of Colby College is a trustee ex officio. The law also updates the language concerning removal of trustees in a manner consistent with Maine law and repeals Private and Special Law 1959, chapter 42.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Private and Special Law, chapter 45 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 30, 2006.

LD 2069Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of the Final Repeal of
Portions of Chapter 130: Rules for Equivalent InstructionRESOLVE 171
EMERGENCYPrograms, a Major Substantive Rule That Has Been Provisionally
Repealed by the Department of EducationFrom the second s

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportOTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 2069 proposed to provide for legislative review of the final repeal of Chapter 130: Rules for Equivalent Instruction Programs, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education that had been provisionally repealed.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 171 provides for legislative review of the final repeal of Chapter 130: Rules for Equivalent Instruction Programs, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education that has been provisionally repealed.

Resolve 2005, chapter was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 7, 2006.

LD 2103 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing PUBLIC 611 Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs Regarding Review of the State Board of Education under the State Government Evaluation Act

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> <u>Committee Report</u>

Amendments Adopted H-1017 NORTON

LD 2103, which was introduced without reference to a committee, proposed to implement the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to its review of the State Board of Education under the State Government Evaluation Act. It proposed to clarify that the authority of the State Board of Education with respect to the development or implementation of cooperative agreements among school administrative units is advisory in nature and proposed to replace the term "school consolidation" with "school administrative unit configuration."

House Amendment "A" (H-1017) proposed to remove language relating to the power and duty of the State Board of Education to develop a school administrative unit configuration plan that includes criteria for evaluating opportunities for reconfiguration and, if desirable, develop a time line for implementation.

Enacted law summary