

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

July 2007

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# STATE OF MAINE

123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	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.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

## *Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

composition of the State Board of Education must be broadly representative of the geographic regions of the State. The amendment also clarifies that the residency requirement for members appointed to the State Board of Education is limited to their residency at the time of their appointment. The amendment further provides that the members serving on the State Board of Education at the time of the effective date of this Act continue to serve for the remainder of the terms for which they were appointed and, after the expiration of those terms, that the appointment of State Board of Education members must be made consistent with the provisions of this Act.

### **Senate Amendment "A" (S-107)**

This amendment retains language in the bill that provides that the membership of the State Board of Education must be broadly representative of municipalities of varying sizes.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 179 changes the composition of the State Board of Education by requiring that membership of the board be broadly representative of the geographic regions of the State and of municipalities of varying sizes.

**LD 821**      **Resolve, To Make University of Maine System Tuition Affordable** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOORE G	ONTP	

This resolve is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This emergency resolve proposes to direct the University of Maine System to reduce by 10% the salaries of all administrative positions within the system and to use those savings to lower tuition for Maine resident students.

**LD 834**      **Resolve, To Create a Study Commission To Review and Report on the Possibility of Making All Public School Teachers in Maine Employees of the State** **ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HOTHAM MILLS P	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	

This resolve establishes the Commission to Review and Report on the Possibility of Making All Public School Teachers in Maine Employees of the State.

**LD 835**      **An Act To Encourage School Administrative Units To Collaborate with Other School Administrative Units** **ONTP**

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to provide the opportunity for current school administrative units to form regional cooperatives to aid in the efficient delivery of educational services while maintaining a high-quality educational system for students, teachers, community members and schools. The bill would balance the independence of the legislative bodies of school administrative units and local control with the efficient delivery of administrative services for schools while enhancing the educational programs provided for prekindergarten to grade 12 public education students in the State.