

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD 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 123rd 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

LD 1564 Resolve, To Encourage Financial Education of Children from Kindergarten to Grade 12

RESOLVE 132

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PRIEST	OTP-AM	H-402 S-355 ROTUNDO

LD 1564 requires the Treasurer of State to organize a seminar in November 2007 for training in teaching financial literacy to students from kindergarten to grade 12, paid for from available funds in the Unclaimed Property Fund. This resolve also directs the Department of Education to allow the seminar to qualify for continuing education credits for teachers and education personnel.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-402)

This amendment adds the Maine Community College System to the parties the Treasurer of State is directed to work with in organizing the seminar. It removes language relating to the Department of Education's allowing the seminar to qualify for credits for continuing education. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the resolve.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-355)

This amendment removes the General Fund appropriation of \$15,000 in fiscal year 2007-08. It also provides a one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the financial literacy program within the Office of the Treasurer of State of \$15,000 for fiscal year 2007-08 to establish an account and to allow it to receive one-time funds transferred from the unobligated balances of the Office of Consumer Credit Regulation. This allocation will fund the additional costs associated with hosting a statewide seminar on teaching financial literacy to public school students, including speakers, materials and food.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 132 provides a one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the financial literacy program within the Office of the Treasurer of State of \$15,000 for fiscal year 2007-08 to establish an account and to allow it to receive one-time funds transferred from the unobligated balances of the Office of Consumer Credit Regulation. This allocation will fund the additional costs associated with hosting a statewide seminar on teaching financial literacy to public school students, including speakers, materials and food.

LD 1565 Resolve, To Expand Access to Early Childhood Education to All Children 4 Years of Age and Older

ONTP

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

This resolve requires the Department of Education to develop a pilot program to provide up to 2 years of preschool education to children 4 years of age and older. The objective of the pilot program is to prepare children for learning in the mainstream public school system through individualized attention with a focus on cognitive skills and social development and a de-emphasis on testing.