

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 1722 An Act To Allow the Creation of a School District in Northern Franklin County

ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

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

This bill allows a school administrative unit that is a municipality or school administrative district to combine with another school administrative district to create a larger school administrative district. This bill also allows unincorporated townships to join or create school administrative districts upon petition by 10% or more of the voters of the township and upon election within the township. At a special meeting, the township selects representatives to act as municipal officers and the municipal clerk.

LD 1758 Resolve, To Promote Alternative Schools within Existing School Systems

RESOLVE 124

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MUSE	OTP-AM	H-194

LD 1758 establishes the Alternative Education Programs Committee. The committee is directed to review and make recommendations for the promotion of alternatives in education within existing school systems.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-194)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause and corrects a reference to a committee.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 124 establishes the Alternative Education Programs Committee. The committee is directed to review existing alternative education programs and examine their benefits for youth at risk. The Alternative Education Programs Committee is required to submit a report with recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and is authorized to introduce legislation related to its report no later than December 19, 2007.

LD 1766 An Act To Amend the Authorization Procedures for Certain Municipal and School Budgets

ONTP

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

This bill simplifies the articles that must be submitted to the voters of a school administrative unit to authorize the raising and appropriation of funds. It also makes more transparent the categories of spending in which any municipality or district may exceed essential programs and services costs.