

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

May 2008

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JILL IPPOLITI, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR & FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



**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 Second Regular or First Special Sessions of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature.

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:

<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (R2) is June 30, 2008. The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session (S1) is July 18, 2008.<sup>1</sup> The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills. Any bill summarized in this document having an LD number less than 1932 was a bill carried over from the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Legislature.

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<sup>1</sup> The session in which each law was enacted or finally passed (R2 or S1) is included in Appendix C.

# Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 1998 An Act To Provide Accessible Higher Education Financial Assistance for  
Maine Families**

**PUBLIC 520  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL	OTP-AM	S-447

This bill amends certain provisions of the Finance Authority of Maine's existing authority to finance education loans to ensure the ability of the Finance Authority of Maine to originate such loans.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-447)

This amendment allows the Finance Authority of Maine to purchase loans made by out-of-state lenders under the Federal Family Education Loan Program to Maine students.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 520 amends certain provisions of the Finance Authority of Maine's existing authority to finance education loans to ensure the ability of the Finance Authority of Maine to originate such loans. The law also allows the Finance Authority of Maine to purchase loans made by out-of-state lenders under the Federal Family Education Loan Program to Maine students.

Public Law 2007, chapter 520 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 27, 2008.

**LD 2025 An Act To Provide Degree-granting Authority to the Landing School of  
Boatbuilding and Design**

**P & S 40  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CONNOR	OTP-AM	H-759

This bill authorizes the Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design to confer the degree of Associate Degree in Applied Science upon students in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10704 based on the recommendation of the State Board of Education. The bill is an emergency because the school needs the authorization to initiate the national accreditation process with the United States Department of Education.

### Committee Amendment "A" (H-759)

This amendment corrects an error in the emergency preamble of the bill.

### Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 40 authorizes the Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design to confer the degree of Associate Degree in Applied Science upon students in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10704 based on the recommendation of the State Board of Education.

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 40 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 31, 2008.