

# 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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**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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**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

Education Rule Chapter 101 provisions for the minutes of pupil evaluation team meetings.

Resolve 2007, chapter 188 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 8, 2008.

## **LD 2174**    **Resolve, Regarding Curriculum Requirements and Standards for Awarding a High School Diploma**

**RESOLVE 173**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NORTON	OTP-AM	H-761

This bill amends standards for student assessment; basic school approval; the elementary, middle and secondary courses of study; the comprehensive program of study for the high school diploma; and the Department of Education diploma in order to more fully implement Maine's system of learning results.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-761)**

This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve that directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a stakeholder group to examine the Maine Revised Statutes and Department of Education rules that pertain to the curriculum requirements and standards for awarding a high school diploma. The stakeholder group shall develop recommendations that demonstrate how students can meet graduation requirements using multiple pathways that include career and technical education programs.

The stakeholder group shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Education no later than November 28, 2008 that includes its findings, recommendations and any suggested changes to the Maine Revised Statutes or Department of Education rules that pertain to the curriculum requirements and standards for awarding a high school diploma. The commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters by January 30, 2009 on the report submitted by the stakeholder group and on the status of rulemaking for Department of Education Rule Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units and Department of Education Rule Chapter 127: Instructional Program, Assessment and Diploma Requirements.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2007, chapter 173 directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a stakeholder group to examine the Maine Revised Statutes and Department of Education rules that pertain to the curriculum requirements and standards for awarding a high school diploma. The resolve provides that the stakeholder group shall develop recommendations that demonstrate how students can meet graduation requirements using multiple pathways that include career and technical education programs.

The resolve also provides that the stakeholder group shall submit a report to the Commissioner of Education no later than November 28, 2008 that includes its findings, recommendations and any suggested changes to the Maine Revised Statutes or Department of Education rules that pertain to the curriculum requirements and standards for awarding a high school diploma. The commissioner shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters by January 30, 2009 on the report submitted by the stakeholder group and on the status of rulemaking for Department of Education Rule Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units and Department of Education Rule Chapter 127: Instructional Program, Assessment and Diploma Requirements.