

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

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

July 2009

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</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 124<sup>th</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:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| CARRIED OVER.....                             | Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature                 |
| 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; bill died                                  |
| ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....           | Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died                            |
| P&S XXX.....                                  | Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law                              |
| 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                          |

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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 118**

**An Act To Further Facilitate the Provision of Educational Loans for Maine Students and Families**

**PUBLIC 83  
EMERGENCY**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOWMAN            | OTP-AM                  | H-92 SUTHERLAND<br>S-19   |

This bill extends the date after which the Finance Authority of Maine may not create or establish any capital reserve fund for the provision of educational loans for Maine students and families from June 30, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-19)**

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

**House Amendment "A" (H-92)**

This amendment resolves a conflict between laws to make clear the Finance Authority of Maine is authorized to originate federally guaranteed student loans.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 83 extends the date after which the Finance Authority of Maine may not create or establish a capital reserve fund for the provision of educational loans for Maine students and families from June 30, 2009 to June 30, 2010. It also clarifies FAME's authority to originate federally guaranteed student loans.

**LD 128**

**An Act To Require the Teaching of Agricultural Studies in Maine's Schools**

**ONTP**

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

This bill is the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to section 18 of Public Law 2007, chapter 660, An Act to Promote the Agricultural Economy. It requires that agricultural studies be included in the system of learning results. The bill also provides that the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Council and the Department of Education develop a plan for instruction and present the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry no later than January 15, 2010. The plan must be established by July 30, 2012 and implemented during the 2012-2013 school year. A school administrative unit is not required to implement instruction of agricultural studies if implementation cannot be achieved within existing local resources.