

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

# 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

as a pilot project launched by the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital at Maine Medical Center in 9 schools in York County. It now includes 12 communities and is aimed at promoting healthy eating and physical activity in the school environment. The program emphasizes better nutritional choices and more activity.

**LD 1178**      **Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State, and Local Accountability Standards, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education**      **RESOLVE 117 EMERGENCY**

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

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State, and Local Accountability Standards, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education.

### Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 117 provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State, and Local Accountability Standards, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized.

Resolve 2009, chapter 117 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 9, 2009.

**LD 1191**      **An Act To Improve Teacher Confidentiality Laws**      **PUBLIC 331**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS P	OTP-AM	S-267

This bill permits access to confidential information on denials, revocations and suspensions of teacher certification to the extent that the information is needed by a national association of state directors of teacher education and certification, in aid of an investigation by other jurisdictions investigating qualifications for certification or considering reciprocal disciplinary action or by law enforcement agencies in aid of an investigation. The bill also authorizes the Department of Education to disseminate as public information statistical summaries of complaints and dispositions as long as the dissemination does not jeopardize the confidentiality of individually identifiable information.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-267)

This amendment provides that the confidentiality provisions of the bill apply to applicants for certification, authorization or approval under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapters 501 and 502.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 331 permits access to confidential information on denials, revocations and suspensions of teacher certification to the extent that the information is needed by a national association of state directors of teacher education and certification, in aid of an investigation by other jurisdictions investigating qualifications for certification or considering reciprocal disciplinary action or by law enforcement agencies in aid of an investigation. The law also authorizes the Department of Education to disseminate as public information statistical summaries of complaints and dispositions as long as the dissemination does not jeopardize the confidentiality of individually