

# 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*

This bill establishes the Middle School of Science and Mathematics as a public chartered school located on the Blue Hill peninsula to provide students with a challenging educational experience with an emphasis on math and science.

**LD 1297      Resolve, To Review Changing the Duties of the State Board of Education**

**RESOLVE 140  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOY	OTP-AM	H-478 S-339 BARTLETT

This bill dissolves the State Board of Education on July 1, 2010, and directs the Department of Education to study and recommend legislation to transfer the powers and duties of the board to other agencies in anticipation of the dissolution.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-478)**

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve to establish a stakeholder group to review the role of the State Board of Education and submit a report and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 1, 2009. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may introduce legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. The amendment also changes the bill title and incorporates an emergency preamble and an emergency clause.

**Senate Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-339)**

This amendment adds 2 additional legislative members to the stakeholder group and clarifies that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House are to appoint all members of the stakeholder group and that the first appointed members of the Senate and the House of Representatives are to serve as cochairs of the stakeholder group. This amendment specifies that the representatives of the Department of Education and the State Board of Education are the commissioner and the chair, respectively, or their designees.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2009, chapter 140 establishes a stakeholder group to review the role of the State Board of Education and submit a report and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 1, 2009. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may introduce legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

Resolve 2009, chapter 140 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 19, 2009.

**LD 1298      An Act To Adjust the Special Education Funding for Minimum Subsidy Receivers**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOSTIE NUTTING J	ONTP	

This bill adjusts the subsidy for special education for those school administrative units that are minimum receivers of state subsidy by reducing the transition percentage for special education costs to 25%.