

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2009

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STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 124th 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 124th 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 1457 An Act To Limit Membership by School Administrative Units in
Certain Interscholastic Organizations**

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TARDY MITCHELL E	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill prohibits a school administrative unit, including any member school in that school administrative unit, from belonging to or supporting an interscholastic organization that limits that school administrative unit from participating in contests, tournaments or games that have no effect on the standings of that school administrative unit.

LD 1486 Resolve, To Establish a Transition Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2009-10

RESOLVE 125

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WEBSTER GERZOFSKY		

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a transition adjustment to minimize any adverse fiscal impact that may be experienced by some municipalities as a result of sudden, severe changes in property fiscal capacity. This adjustment will be available only to a municipality that experiences an increase of 14% or more in property fiscal capacity between the 2007 and the 2008 certified state valuations and that immediately experiences a decrease of 6% or more in property fiscal capacity between the 2008 and the 2009 certified state valuations.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 125 directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a transition adjustment to minimize any adverse fiscal impact that may be experienced by some municipalities as a result of sudden, severe changes in property fiscal capacity. This adjustment will be available only to a municipality that experiences an increase of 14% or more in property fiscal capacity between the 2007 and the 2008 certified state valuations and that immediately experiences a decrease of 6% or more in property fiscal capacity between the 2008 and the 2009 certified state valuations.

**LD 1493 An Act To Clarify the Rights of Bondholders and Noteholders in the
Event a School Administrative Unit with Outstanding Bonds or Notes Is
Dissolved or Is No Longer Authorized by Law**

**PUBLIC 445
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND		S-346 ALFOND

This bill provides that the rights of bondholders or noteholders may not be impaired in the event that legislation is enacted that dissolves a school administrative unit with outstanding indebtedness or in the event that the laws pursuant to which a school administrative unit with outstanding indebtedness is organized and exists are repealed.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Senate Amendment "A" (S-346)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 445 provides that the rights of bondholders or noteholders may not be impaired in the event that legislation is enacted that dissolves a school administrative unit with outstanding indebtedness or in the event that the laws pursuant to which a school administrative unit with outstanding indebtedness is organized and exists are repealed.

Public Law 2009, chapter 445 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2009.