

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

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

April 2010

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</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 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<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 HOUSES</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 of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Monday, July 12, 2010. 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 1506 An Act To Authorize Maine Media College To Confer the Degree of Master of Fine Arts**

**P & S 27  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WELSH RECTOR	OTP	

Private and Special Law 2009, chapter 9 granted approval of degree-granting authority until June 30, 2010 to Maine Media College. This bill authorizes Maine Media College to grant the degree of Master of Fine Arts beyond June 30, 2010.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2009, chapter 27 authorizes Maine Media College to grant the degree of Master of Fine Arts beyond June 30, 2010.

Private and Special Law 2009, chapter 27 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 30, 2010.

**LD 1521 An Act To Clarify the State's Initiative Involving the Federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008**

**PUBLIC 463  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CORNELL DU HOUX	OTP-AM	H-586

This bill clarifies an ambiguity in the law that prevents Maine public colleges and universities from receiving less than the in-state tuition rate from veterans using benefits under the federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. The bill provides that the amount of the tuition waiver received by an eligible veteran may not exceed an amount that lowers the tuition to less than the in-state tuition charged by the institution. The bill also provides that Maine public colleges and universities may apply other nonrepayable resources, including grants and scholarships for which the veteran may be eligible, toward the institution's tuition charges prior to waiving the tuition charges that remain.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-586)**

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 463 clarifies an ambiguity in the law that prevents Maine public colleges and universities from receiving less than the in-state tuition rate from veterans using benefits under the federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. The law provides that the amount of the tuition waiver received by an eligible veteran may not exceed an amount that lowers the tuition to less than the in-state tuition charged by the institution. The law also provides that Maine public colleges and universities may apply other nonrepayable resources, including grants and scholarships for which the veteran may be eligible, toward the institution's tuition charges prior to waiving the tuition charges that remain.

Public Law 2009, chapter 463 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 8, 2010.