

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
124TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

April 2010

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

STATE OF MAINE

124TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND 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 Second 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 HOUSES..... 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 Second Regular Session of the 124th 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

that was discussed or considered during an executive session.

5. It strengthens the quorum requirement for the board of trustees from members in attendance to one-third of all voting members.
6. It removes references to high school sophomores, juniors and seniors in the laws governing admission to the school and provides that admittance of high school students must be based on criteria established by the board of trustees.
7. Finally, it makes necessary changes to reflect the newly created regional school unit.

LD 1613

An Act To Modernize the Laws Governing the State's Cultural Agencies

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERCY SIMPSON	ONTP	

This bill provides for further implementation of recommendations contained in the State Controller's audit of the Maine State Library, the Maine Arts Commission, the Maine State Museum Commission and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to provide greater accountability and transparency in the conduct of the work of those agencies. The bill directs the cultural agencies to recommend legislation to modernize the laws related to those agencies. The bill directs the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs to work with the agencies, the Department of Education and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to determine whether to establish a new position of deputy commissioner for cultural affairs within the Department of Education and place the cultural agencies under the jurisdiction of that department. The bill also makes changes to the appointment process for certain members overseeing the agencies, specifies the terms for members of and permissible reappointments for certain commissions and strengthens public access to records of the commissions.

LD 1654

An Act To Improve the Availability, Efficiency and Cost of Services for Infants, Young Children and Their Families

LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND	LTW	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to restructure the services available to infants and young children with developmental disabilities, including autism, and developmental delays. The restructured services would include supports for the families of these infants and young children. The bill would aim to improve informed choices for families and improve the coordination of services among numerous community agencies and state departments. The bill would provide a new, streamlined structure to improve identification of need and ease of accessing services and improve outcomes for infants and young children and their families and efficiency in the use of state funds.