

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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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:

<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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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 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

LD 1757 An Act To Create Fair Education Funding for Regional School Units

ONTP

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

This bill requires that the State calculate, based on the original date that school units were required to comply with the school consolidation laws, the reduction in state funding that would have applied to nonconforming school units if penalties had been assessed and requires the State to distribute that amount of funds to those regional school units that successfully completed the process of reorganization in order to comply with the school consolidation laws.

LD 1764 Resolve, To Support the Development of Maine's Economic Future by Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education

**RESOLVE 151
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		S-359 ALFOND

This legislation is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to the authority granted under Resolve 2009, Chapter 98, "Resolve, To Understand and Assist Efforts to Promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education."

The resolve directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System, to conduct a study and develop a strategic plan for science, technology, engineering and mathematics learning in preparation for the State application for federal funding under the Race to the Top competitive grant established under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The resolve also directs the Department of Education to review existing State learning standards for kindergarten to grade 12 public education to determine if students have the opportunity to develop the skills and gain the knowledge that will be incorporated as part of a national assessment of technological literacy beginning in 2012. The Department of Education shall submit a report by February 1, 2011 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters on the status of the State plan for science, technology, engineering and mathematics learning and on the review of State learning standards and opportunities for learning related to technological literacy. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters may submit legislation based on the findings and recommendations of the report submitted by the Department of Education to the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-359)

The bill authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters to submit legislation to the Legislature. This amendment instead specifies that the committee may submit a bill to the Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 151 directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System, to conduct a study and develop a strategic plan for science, technology, engineering and mathematics learning in preparation for the State application for federal funding under the Race to

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

the Top competitive grant established under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The resolve also directs the Department of Education to review existing State learning standards for kindergarten to grade 12 public education to determine if students have the opportunity to develop the skills and gain the knowledge that will be incorporated as part of a national assessment of technological literacy beginning in 2012. The Department of Education shall submit a report by February 1, 2011 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters on the status of the State plan for science, technology, engineering and mathematics learning and on the review of State learning standards and opportunities for learning related to technological literacy. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters may submit a bill based on the findings and recommendations of the report submitted by the Department of Education to the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Resolve 2009, chapter 151 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective February 23, 2010.

LD 1771 An Act To Include All Children in the Conditions of Education Report

PUBLIC 540

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

This bill requires the Education Research Institute to include in the information that it collects and analyzes information on early care and public preschool programs. The bill also adds as a member of the steering committee a person from the Maine Children's Growth Council.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 540 requires the Education Research Institute to include in the information that it collects and analyzes information on early care and public preschool programs. The law also adds as a member of the steering committee a person from the Maine Children's Growth Council.

LD 1782 An Act To Exempt the Town of Hermon from the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Law

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

This bill exempts the Town of Hermon from minimum student enrollments established in statute for regional school units. The Commissioner of Education is required to treat the town in a manner similar to the treatment of coastal islands.