

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2011

**STAFF:**

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

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND  
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*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; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE* ..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT* ..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public Law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

***Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs***

**LD 606**

**An Act To Protect State Education Funds**

**ONTP**

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

This bill prohibits school boards from depositing funds received from the State in banks that do not cover losses in cases of fraudulent automatic clearinghouse transactions. "Automatic clearinghouse transaction" means an electronic funds transfer between bank accounts that groups transactions.

**LD 608**

**An Act To Regionalize Supervision of Students in the Unorganized Territory**

**ONTP**

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

This bill establishes a four-district school administrative district system for the unorganized territory. The bill requires the Commissioner of Education to develop rules to transfer state management of the school systems in the unorganized territory to these four administrative districts. The commissioner is required to submit to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature provisionally adopted rules and proposed legislation necessary to accomplish this transfer of responsibility. The Joint Standing Committee on Education is authorized to submit a bill related to the unorganized territory school administrative district system to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

**LD 619**

**An Act To Allow School Administrative Units and Educational Advisory Organizations To Participate in the State's Group Health Plan**

**PUBLIC 438**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN R	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-64

This bill provides that employees of school administrative units and educational advisory organizations are eligible to participate in the group health plan that is available to state employees and other eligible persons.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-64)**

This amendment, which is the majority report, incorporates a fiscal note.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 438 provides that employees of school administrative units and educational advisory organizations are eligible to participate in the group health plan that is available to state employees and other eligible persons.