

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH 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

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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 125th 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 125th 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 627

An Act To Expand the Capacity of York County Community College

Carried Over

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELIVEAU LANGLEY		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the current law to expand the capacity of York County Community College due to its doubled student enrollment in the past five years.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 635

An Act To Provide for the Equitable Reimbursement of Schools Operated by the State in the Unorganized Territory

ONTP

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

This bill provides that the tuition rate that is charged by the Commissioner of Education to a school administrative unit that sends a student to a school maintained by the State in the unorganized territory must be an amount equal to the state average expenditure per elementary pupil as determined by the commissioner pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5804 or the actual expenditure per elementary pupil calculated by the commissioner for the receiving school administrative unit in the unorganized territory, whichever is greater.

LD 656

Resolve, To Establish a Task Force on Franco-Americans

**RESOLVE 102
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE	OTP-AM	H-88 S-337 COURTNEY

This resolve establishes a task force to study Franco-Americans in the State. The task force is directed to determine a definition of who is a Franco-American and gather basic data about Franco-Americans, including how many reside in the State, the percentage of the State's population that is Franco-American, if they speak French, their educational achievement, their annual income and where they live. It directs the task force to report its findings and suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-88)

This amendment reduces the membership of the task force in the resolve from 15 members to 13 members; requires that the task force work with the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, while allowing the task force to work with individuals or nonprofit or charitable organizations; changes the reporting requirements to include a