

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

preliminary report date of December 7, 2011 and a final report date of November 7, 2012; and authorizes the Legislative Council to oversee contributions from private sources on behalf of the task force.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-337)

The amendment explicitly exempts this study from the requirements of Joint Rule 353.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 102 establishes a 13 member task force to study Franco-Americans in the State. The task force, working with the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, 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 preliminary findings on December 7, 2011 and a final report and findings on November 7, 2012 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill.

Resolve 2011, chapter 102 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 6, 2011.

LD 662

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Pertaining to the Statute of Limitations for Filing a Due Process Hearing Request Regarding Special Education

MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

This resolve restores to six years the statute of limitations for filing a due process hearing request in special education matters.

LD 675

An Act To Establish Multidistrict Online Classes in Maine

Carried Over

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

This bill allows nonresident students to enroll in a school administrative unit's online learning program, with the school administrative unit of residence for that student to pay the enrolling school administrative unit the student's tuition for the program. The bill also directs the Department of Education to create a stakeholder group to study the opportunities in and challenges of creating one online learning program for the State and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 4, 2012.

LD 675 was removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-304)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to provide several provisions that allow nonresident students to enroll