

# 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

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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 1316**

**An Act To Expand Magnet Schools in Maine**

**Carried Over**

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to give school districts across the State authority to create magnet schools, either within their communities or in partnerships with other districts. Magnet schools that are created under this bill will be eligible for state funds under the essential programs and services funding formula.

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

**LD 1322**

**An Act To Extend the Probationary Period for Teachers**

**ONTP**

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

This bill requires school superintendents to implement programs to evaluate and support probationary teachers and extends the probationary period for teachers from two years presently to three years for teachers hired in 2012 and four years for teachers hired in 2013 or subsequent years.

While this bill was not enacted Public Law 2011, chapter 172 (LD 976) includes the initiative proposed in the bill.

**LD 1345**

**An Act To Align Maine Special Education Statutes with Federal Requirements**

**PUBLIC 348**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P DIAMOND	OTP-AM	H-536

This bill repeals provisions providing for planning the transition of students with disabilities to adult services and for transitional services coordination projects for students with disabilities by the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition in order to make state requirements regarding these students not exceed federal requirements. The bill eliminates the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition. It also repeals provisions for transitional pilot projects for which funding is no longer provided. This bill enacts language regarding the duties of school administrative units and the Commissioner of Education with regard to services for students with disabilities who are in transition from school to the community in accordance with the provisions of rules adopted by the Department of Education. This bill provides for the coordination of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education in the submission of the annual report on efforts to plan for and develop social and habilitative services for persons who have autism and other pervasive developmental disorders and provides that the report also be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs.