

# 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*

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-536)**

This amendment clarifies language in the bill that provides for the participation of representatives of the Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Health and Human Services in transition planning for students who are in transition from school to the community. The amendment also requires the Department of Education to form a work group with representation from those departments and other private and public stakeholders to determine appropriate statutory language pertaining to transition to adult services and the allocation of those statutory provisions in the Maine Revised Statutes to reflect the responsibilities of the various state agencies.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 348 repeals provisions that provide 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 law accomplishes the following.

1. It eliminates the Interdepartmental Committee on Transition.
2. It repeals provisions for transitional pilot projects for which funding is no longer provided.
3. It enacts provisions 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.
4. It 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.
5. It provides for the participation of representatives of the Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Health and Human Services in transition planning for students who are in transition from school to the community; and further requires the Department of Education to form a work group with representation from those departments and other private and public stakeholders to determine appropriate statutory language pertaining to transition to adult services and the allocation of those statutory provisions in the Maine Revised Statutes to reflect the responsibilities of the various state agencies.

**LD 1356**

**An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the School Revolving Renovation Fund**

**PUBLIC 153**

Sponsor(s)

LANGLEY

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill amends the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act to allow for funding from the School Revolving Renovation Fund for hazardous material removal in schools and for repairs and improvements related to energy and water conservation. This bill also strikes obsolete language.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 153 amends the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act to allow for funding from the School Revolving Renovation Fund for hazardous material removal in schools and for repairs and improvements related to

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

energy and water conservation. This law also strikes obsolete language.

**LD 1380      An Act To Extend the Salary Supplement for National Board-certified Teachers at Publicly Supported Secondary Schools That Enroll at Least 60% Public Students      DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

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

This bill extends the salary supplement provided to public school teachers who have attained certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to teachers at publicly supported secondary schools, which includes private secondary schools approved for the receipt of public funds that enroll 60% or more publicly funded students.

**LD 1388      An Act To Allow Schools To Adopt Approved Alternative Curricula      ONTP**

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

This bill amends the school restructuring statutes to encourage school administrative units to collaborate with approved private schools to develop alternative curriculum frameworks to achieve school restructuring at the middle school or high school level. The bill allows a school administrative unit that is undergoing restructuring at the middle school or high school level to request a waiver of the rule requirements related to the system of learning results established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209 if the waiver is necessary to achieve school restructuring and an alternative curriculum framework proposed for the school administrative unit's school restructuring differs from, but does not conflict with, the rules related to the system of learning results.

**LD 1402      An Act To Extend Employment Reference Immunity to School Administrative Units      PUBLIC 397**

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

This bill extends employment reference immunity to employees of school administrative units.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 397 extends employment reference immunity to employees of school administrative units.