

# 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*

10. It establishes a 10-year transition period during which only 10 public charter schools may be authorized by the State Charter School Commission and provides that public charter schools authorized by school boards may not be counted against the limit established for public charter schools authorized by the State Charter School Commission.

11. It provides enrollment limitations to protect smaller noncharter public schools. The enrollment limitations apply to each of the first 3 years of operation of a public charter school that is authorized by the State Charter School Commission as follows:

A. For a school administrative unit with an enrollment of 500 or fewer students, a public charter school may not enroll more than 5% of the school administrative unit's students per grade level; and

B. For a school administrative unit with an enrollment of more than 500 students, a public charter school may not enroll more than 10% of the school administrative unit's students per grade level.

12. It provides that a public charter school may not begin operations prior to July 1, 2012, and it provides that a public charter school application submitted to an authorizer before July 1, 2012 is subject to statutory amendments enacted or rule amendments adopted before July 1, 2012.

13. It directs the Department of Education to present a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by November 1, 2011 on the status of rules proposed to implement this law and on the status of suggested legislation to be submitted to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature to further improve the implementation of this law.

**LD 1559**

**Resolve, To Transfer the Guilford Butler School to Regional School Unit**

**RESOLVE 88**

**13**

Sponsor(s)

RECTOR

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-164

This resolve authorizes the State to transfer ownership of the Guilford Butler School in South Thomaston to Regional School Unit 13.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-164)**

This amendment corrects the spelling of the name of the school that is the subject of this resolve.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2011, chapter 88 authorizes the State to transfer ownership of the Guilford Butler School in South Thomaston to Regional School Unit 13.