

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

June 2012

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STATE OF MAINE

125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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 Second 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.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i>	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i>	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i> ...	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is Thursday, August 30, 2012. 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

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 473 updates the laws concerning the Maine School of Science and Mathematics to change the designation of the school from a chartered school to a magnet school and changes the title of "superintendent" of the school to "executive director" to avoid confusion with other statutory terms.

**LD 1601 Resolve, To Amend the Resolve Establishing the Task Force on Franco-Americans **RESOLVE 119
EMERGENCY****

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE	OTP-AM	H-686

This resolve, which is an emergency, amends Resolve 2011, chapter 102, which established the Task Force on Franco-Americans. The resolve extends the time during which appointments may be made for the task force and authorizes the task force to hold 4 meetings. The resolve also provides that the task force chairs may call and convene the first meeting of the task force during the Second Regular Session or any subsequent special session of the 125th Legislature. It also directs the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine to provide necessary staffing services to the task force when the Legislature is in regular or special session. The resolve also adds a retroactivity clause.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-686)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 119 amends Resolve 2011, chapter 102, which established the Task Force on Franco-Americans. The resolve extends the time during which appointments may be made for the task force and authorizes the task force to hold 4 meetings. The resolve also provides that the task force chairs may call and convene the first meeting of the task force during the Second Regular Session or any subsequent special session of the 125th Legislature. It also directs the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine to provide necessary staffing services to the task force when the Legislature is in regular or special session. The resolve also adds a retroactivity clause.

Resolve 2011, chapter 119 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 7, 2012.

LD 1645 An Act To Require the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy To Report the Number of Students Enrolled in Remedial Courses **PUBLIC 615**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	S-475

This bill requires the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy to report annually on the number of traditional students who attended high school in the State and who are enrolled in remedial courses at each campus within their respective systems.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (S-475)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It limits the compilation of information to remedial courses in English language arts and mathematics.
2. To ensure that personally identifiable information that would make a student's identity easily traceable is not disclosed, it prohibits an institution of higher education from reporting disaggregated data for students enrolled in remedial courses when there are 5 or fewer traditional students who received high school diplomas from the same secondary school and who are enrolled in the same remedial course at the same campus.
3. It eliminates the provision in the bill that requires the institutions of higher education to report information on students enrolled in remedial courses to school boards and superintendents of school administrative units whose high school graduates are enrolled in remedial courses.
4. It adds a repeal provision to provide that the compilation and reporting requirements related to remedial education are repealed July 1, 2016, unless the United States Congress enacts a law by this date that requires the compilation and reporting of substantially the same data required by this legislation by public higher education institutions.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 615 requires the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy to report annually on the number of traditional students who attended high school in the State and who are enrolled in remedial courses in English language arts and mathematics at each campus within their respective systems. To ensure that personally identifiable information that would make a student's identity easily traceable is not disclosed, the law prohibits an institution of higher education from reporting disaggregated data for students enrolled in remedial courses when there are 5 or fewer traditional students who received high school diplomas from the same secondary school and who are enrolled in the same remedial course at the same campus.

The law also provides that the compilation and reporting requirements related to remedial education are repealed July 1, 2016, unless the United States Congress enacts a law by this date that requires the compilation and reporting of substantially the same data required by this legislation by public higher education institutions.

LD 1668 An Act To Improve the Regional School Unit Budget Approval and Validation Process

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SNOWE-MELLO	ONTP	

This bill changes the form of the question for a regional school unit budget validation referendum. It also provides that if a budget for the operation of a regional school unit is not approved prior to July 1st, the latest budget approved at a budget validation referendum is automatically considered the budget for operational expenses for the ensuing year until a final budget is approved.