

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
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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 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

The bill repeals the provision in current law that allows regional school calendars to have provisions for waivers of the number of dissimilar days for extenuating circumstances. This amendment instead limits such waivers to schools in Aroostook County for the purposes of agricultural harvesting.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-530)

This amendment allows the Commissioner of Education to authorize regional school calendars that have more than 5 instructional days that are not aligned with the calendar of the career and technical education center in that region. To be eligible for authorization, all of the school administrative units in the region must have a plan, and ensure compliance with that plan, to provide access to students in that region to career and technical education programs for the entire instructional time required for those programs.

Senate Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-605)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 686 increases opportunities for students in career and technical education programs by ensuring greater coordination of school calendars, requiring that students have access to career and technical education programming for the entire required instructional time and ensuring that the students get credit in their high school programs for academic competencies gained through separate or integrated courses in the career and technical education programs. The law does the following.

1. It repeals the current statutory provision that allows regional school calendars to have provisions for waivers of the number of dissimilar days for extenuating circumstances and instead limits such waivers to schools in Aroostook County for the purposes of agricultural harvesting.
2. It allows the Commissioner of Education to authorize regional school calendars that have more than 5 instructional days that are not aligned with the calendar of the career and technical education center in that region. To be eligible for authorization, all of the school administrative units in the region must have a plan, and ensure compliance with that plan, to provide access to students in that region to career and technical education programs for the entire instructional time required for those programs.
3. It also directs the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy to each establish a process for determining the nature and amount of college credit to be awarded to a student upon completion of an approved secondary school program through a career and technical education program that uses national industry or state certification standards. The processes will be set forth in separate memoranda of understanding with the Department of Education.

LD 1866

An Act To Remove Inequity in Student Access to Certain Schools

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill repeals the language stating that only nonsectarian private schools may be approved for the receipt of public funds for tuition purposes.