

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2013

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126th 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 126th Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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

standards of the students' institution of higher learning; and

2. It requires students receiving loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to satisfy financial education requirements established or approved by the authority.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 34 modifies the Finance Authority of Maine's Higher Education Loan Program to specify that the Finance Authority of Maine may provide loan insurance on supplemental student loans and renames it the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program. It also requires students receiving loans from or loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to make satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the standards of the students' institution of higher learning and requires students receiving loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to satisfy financial education requirements established or approved by the authority.

Public Law 2013, chapter 34 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 16, 2013.

LD 367 An Act To Repeal the Repeal Provision in the Law That Limits the ONTP
Reduction of State Subsidy for Education

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER MAKER	ONTP	

This bill repeals the repeal provision in the law that exempts a school administrative unit from a reduction in its state subsidy for failure to raise its required local contribution to the total cost of funding public education if the unit raises the same percentage of the local contribution as the State raises of the state contribution.

LD 369 An Act To Redesign Maine's School Funding Model CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C BERRY		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes a redesign of Maine's school funding formula to achieve equal educational opportunity for Maine students and statewide equity in property tax burden.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 370 Resolve, To Create a Working Group To Identify Elementary School RESOLVE 22
and Middle School Applied Learning Opportunities

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY POULIOT	OTP-AM	S-37

This resolve is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to assemble a working group to identify opportunities for and best practices of applied learning opportunities in kindergarten to grade 8. These

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

opportunities and practices will then be posted on the Department of Education's website so that all schools may access them and benefit from them.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-37)

This amendment replaces the resolve, which is a concept draft, with a resolve to convene a working group to identify opportunities for providing applied learning pathways for students enrolled in kindergarten to grade 8 in public schools in the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 22 establishes a working group to identify opportunities for providing applied learning pathways for students enrolled in kindergarten to grade 8 in public schools in the State.

LD 383 An Act To Increase Public Awareness Regarding School Budget Elections

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill changes the form of the question required in a budget validation referendum for a regional school unit to include the total dollar amount of the school budget and the percentage increase or decrease in the school budget compared to the budget in the previous year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-253)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to require that the information provided by a regional school unit board, which must be posted at polling places during a budget validation referendum vote, must include a statement that includes the total dollar amount of authorized expenditures in the budget for the upcoming school year and the amount of the percentage increase or decrease of the total authorized expenditures as compared to the total authorized expenditures in the budget approved and validated in the previous school year.

LD 384 An Act To Allow Spouses and Children of Veterans Killed in the Line of Duty To Receive the State Tuition Waiver

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VILLA VALENTINO	ONTP	

This bill provides tuition waivers to state postsecondary educational institutions for spouses and children of members of the United States Armed Forces who have been killed or injured while on duty. This tuition waiver is currently available for spouses and children of firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical services persons who have been killed or injured while on duty.