

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
126<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 2013

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# STATE OF MAINE

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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 126<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 126<sup>th</sup> 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***

This resolve requires the Department of Education to examine the options for the administration of a high school equivalency examination and to develop a plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination. The department shall submit its report and plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by April 1, 2013.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-172)**

This amendment strikes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause from the resolve and amends the resolve to provide that the review conducted by the Department of Education on the options for the administration of a high school equivalency examination must include an analysis of the implementation costs that would be required to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The amendment also requires that the department's plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination must also address the continued state funding support and technical assistance necessary to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The amendment changes the reporting date to October 1, 2013.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2013, chapter 49 requires the Department of Education to examine the options for the administration of a high school equivalency examination and to develop a plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination. The review conducted by the department must include an analysis of the implementation costs that would be required to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The department's plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination must also address the continued state funding support and technical assistance necessary to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The department shall submit its report and plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by October 1, 2013.

**LD 462      An Act To Dedicate Funds for Emergency Back-up Power for Schools      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY COLLINS	ONTP	

This bill provides that if a school administrative unit participates in the Percent for Art Program it must use at least 1/2 of the amount identified for this purpose to provide back-up electrical power to the school, building or facility being constructed.

**LD 464      An Act To Change Compensation for Career and Technical Education      CARRIED OVER**  
**Region Cooperative Board Meeting Attendance**

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

This bill increases the compensation for a career and technical education region cooperative board member from \$10 to \$20 for each meeting the member attends.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-279)**

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and 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