

# 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*

H-C (H-582).

**LD 466**      **An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Awarding a High School Diploma to Veterans**

**PUBLIC 281**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN TUTTLE	OTP-AM	H-471

This bill directs the Department of Education with assistance from the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to issue honorary secondary school diplomas to qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who did not finish secondary school.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-471)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to make changes that are consistent with the current statutory provisions established for awarding a high school diploma to qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who did not finish secondary school during certain periods of wartime. The amendment adds provisions to the current law that allow for awarding a high school diploma to a qualifying veteran who did not finish secondary school during the period of wartime or peacetime that followed World War II, the Korean Conflict or the Vietnam War.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 281 make changes that are consistent with the current statutory provisions established for awarding a high school diploma to qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who did not finish secondary school during certain periods of wartime. The law allows for awarding a high school diploma to a qualifying veteran who did not finish secondary school during the period of wartime or peacetime that followed World War II, the Korean Conflict or the Vietnam War.

**LD 481**      **Resolve, To Review the Laws Governing the Funding of Virtual Public Charter Schools**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill amends the laws governing virtual public charter schools to:

1. Require the authorizer of a virtual public charter school to review and approve the courses and curricula for the virtual public charter school prior to the beginning of each school year;
2. Require that education personnel operating a virtual public charter school hold valid teacher certification in the State;
3. Require that each virtual public charter school student receive at least 2 personal visits from a teacher during each school year; and
4. Provide that only 20% of the per-pupil allocation of state and local operating funds follows the student to a virtual public charter school.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-437)**