

# 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

126<sup>TH</sup> 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 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*

**LD 792**      **An Act To Ensure That Essential Programs and Services Targeted Funding Follows the Secondary Student**      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill provides that a school administrative unit sending a secondary school student to another public school or a private school must pay to the receiving school, in addition to tuition, per-pupil amounts for cocurricular and extracurricular activities and targeted funds for implementation of a standards-based system and technology resources.

**LD 821**      **An Act To Allocate the Balance of Funds Not Expended by the Task Force on Franco-Americans**      **P & S 8  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT THIBODEAU	OTP-AM	H-50

This bill authorizes the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to retain \$300 in the Task Force on Franco-Americans funding account and expend those funds to offset the costs associated with the Legislature's Franco-American Day.

This bill requires the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to pay \$1,110.50 to the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, which represents the balance of funds contributed by outside sources to support the work of the Task Force on Franco-Americans, but not expended by the task force, no later than November 1, 2013.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-50)**

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 8 authorizes the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to retain \$300 in the Task Force on Franco-Americans funding account and expend those funds to offset the costs associated with the Legislature's Franco-American Day. It requires the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to pay \$1,110.50 to the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, which represents the balance of funds contributed by outside sources to support the work of the Task Force on Franco-Americans, but not expended by the task force, no later than November 1, 2013.

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 8 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 14, 2013.

**LD 822**      **An Act To Establish Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month**      **PUBLIC 103**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-87

This bill establishes a special week each year in which schools are encouraged to invite Legislators to visit to promote increased knowledge among students of the legislative process and to improve citizen interest and

*Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

participation in the legislative process.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-87)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to clarify the intent of the bill. This amendment establishes Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month to encourage teachers and school administrators to invite Legislators to visit school classrooms and meet with teachers, school administrators and students to promote increased knowledge among Legislators of prekindergarten to grade 12 public education programs.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 103 establishes Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month to encourage teachers and school administrators to invite Legislators to visit school classrooms and meet with teachers, school administrators and students to promote increased knowledge among Legislators of prekindergarten to grade 12 public education programs.

**LD 823      An Act To Require Institutions of Higher Learning To Comply with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANDERSON MASON G	ONTP	

This bill requires all institutions of higher learning that receive state or federal funds to install on every door allowing access to a room in or area of its educational facilities to which a student or a member of the general public is permitted access a working automatic door opener operated by a wall-mounted electronic push-button device that meets standards adopted by the Maine Human Rights Commission.

**LD 843      An Act To Promote the Financial Literacy of High School Students      PUBLIC 244**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT CAIN	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-348

Current law requires the Commissioner of Education to develop a program of technical assistance that promotes the importance of financial literacy and encourages school administrative units to implement an integrated model for instruction in personal finance that may be used in secondary schools as part of the instruction in social studies or mathematics. This bill amends the system of learning results to require each student to study and become proficient in personal finance, including instruction in purchasing, using credit, budgeting, saving and investing, banking, simple contracts, state and federal income taxes, personal insurance policies and renting or purchasing a home. The bill takes effect beginning with the 2014-2015 school year and requires all secondary schools to include the personal finance course as part of the mathematics instruction required to obtain a high school diploma.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-348)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to add course work in personal finance as part of the required subject of social studies and history that must be provided to all high school students as part of the state requirements for awarding a high school diploma.

The amendment also requires the Commissioner of Education to review the content standards and performance indicators for the content area of social studies, including student achievement of proficiency in personal finance, during the 2015-2016 school year as part of the commissioner's 5-year review cycle of the content standards and