

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. REBECCA J. MILLETT, CHAIR
SEN. CHRISTOPHER K. JOHNSON
SEN. BRIAN D. LANGLEY

REP. W. BRUCE MACDONALD, CHAIR
REP. MARY P. NELSON
REP. HELEN RANKIN
REP. MATTHEA DAUGHTRY
REP. BRIAN L. HUBBELL
REP. VICTORIA P. KORNFIELD
REP. PETER B. JOHNSON
REP. JOYCE A. MAKER
REP. MICHAEL D. MCCLELLAN
REP. MATTHEW G. POULIOT
REP. MADONNA M. SOCTOMAH

STAFF:

PHILLIP D. MCCARTHY, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
JON CLARK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

underfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that should be repealed or amended by the Legislature. The commissioner is directed to submit a report of the findings and conclusions of the review committee, including any suggested legislation to address the review committee's recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 10, 2014. The committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 74 directs the Department of Education to conduct an analysis of current education laws and unfunded or underfunded federal or state education mandates that have resulted in an adverse impact on school administrative units and career and technical regions in the State. The department's analysis must include a summary of recent research and surveys conducted by state officials and pursuant to legislative studies and education stakeholder groups and must include an up-to-date list that identifies unfunded or underfunded federal or state education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that have resulted in an adverse impact on public schools in the State.

The resolve also directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a review committee to examine the list of unfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements identified under the department's analysis and to establish, by consensus, a list of priority recommendations regarding the unfunded or underfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that should be repealed or amended by the Legislature. The commissioner is directed to submit a report of the findings and conclusions of the review committee, including any suggested legislation to address the review committee's recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 10, 2014. The committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Resolve 2013, chapter 74 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 3, 2013.

LD 959 An Act To Require That Seed Money Generated at an Individual College of the Maine Community College System Be Returned to That College for the Purpose of Enhancement ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R LANGLEY	ONTP	

This bill requires that seed money received as a result of the efforts of an individual college of the Maine Community College System be returned to and used to benefit that college.

LD 962 An Act To Increase Access to Higher Education ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

This bill establishes a merit-based scholarship program for eligible students who graduate from high school in Maine and who are admitted to one of the institutions of the University of Maine System or the Maine Community College System. Students must have graduated in the top 25% of their classes in high school and family income must be less than \$30,000 a year. The scholarships are for the full or partial cost of tuition less any financial aid, awards or grants that reduce the level of tuition. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in college in

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

order to remain eligible for the scholarship. This scholarship program will be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine. The Finance Authority of Maine, which is given routine technical rule-making authority, may adjust these eligibility requirements to control expenditures or increase participation in the program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-133)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, modifies the Maine Merit Scholarship Program to replace income eligibility with eligibility based on expected family contribution. Expected family contribution is the standard that is used to determine financial need under various federal scholarship programs and under the Maine State Grant Program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 963 An Act To Expand Access to Early Postsecondary Education

**HELD BY
GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON LANGLEY	OTP-AM	H-545 S-328 GOODALL

This bill makes the following changes to the early postsecondary education programs statutes:

1. It creates a permanent Commission on Expanding Early Postsecondary Access for High School Students;
2. It clarifies that adult education students, home school students and students from private schools are eligible for state subsidy for postsecondary courses. It also clarifies that a student may be eligible if the parents, school administrative unit and postsecondary institution approve;
3. It requires high schools to grant academic credit for postsecondary courses rather than allowing discretion;
4. It requires postsecondary institutions to provide information to students on the transferability of academic credit between postsecondary institutions;
5. It requires the Department of Education to pay 50% of tuition for up to 12 credit hours in an academic year rather than only the first 3 credit hours up to a possible 6-credit-hour maximum;
6. It adds instructors of postsecondary education courses that are offered in secondary schools to the list of personnel that are subject to the fingerprinting and background check requirements; and
7. It requires career and technical education centers to serve as sites for the administration of assessment tests to determine college-level academic skills.

The bill also requires the Department of Education and the Commission on Expanding Early Postsecondary Access for High School Students to establish and maintain a single publicly accessible website with information on early postsecondary education programs and research as well as hyperlinks to those programs and the research.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-545)

This amendment makes several changes to the bill:

1. It adds the definition of "secondary school student" to the definitions in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A,