

# 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 1036**

### **An Act To Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill amends the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program to allow the Finance Authority of Maine to provide debt relief directly to the applicant or to make loan repayments to the lender. This bill also increases the number of applicants who may be eligible for loan relief from 3 applicants to 40 applicants per year, decreases the maximum amount of debt relief to \$1,000 and provides an ongoing appropriation of \$20,000 per year.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-111)**

This amendment is the majority report and clarifies that the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program may provide repayments in the amount of up to \$1,000 for each applicant each year.

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 H-C (H-582).

### **LD 1055 An Act To Create a Maine Financial Education Portal**

**ONTP**

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

This bill expands the financial literacy program operated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Finance Authority of Maine, the Office of Securities within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Jobs for Maine's Graduates, organizations representing banks, credit unions and financial professionals and other interested organizations promoting personal finance initiatives, to require the development and maintenance of a publicly accessible website that serves as a portal to program information on financial literacy resources and services statewide.

### **LD 1056 An Act To Require Local Voter Approval for Charter Schools**

**ONTP**

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

This bill requires that any approval of an application to establish a public charter school by the Maine Charter School Commission after the effective date of this legislation does not take effect unless submitted to and approved by the voters in an area wide referendum that includes the entire community proposed to be served by the public charter school, including all municipalities in which the public charter school would be authorized to engage in student recruitment.