

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

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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 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.

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This bill requires a student from kindergarten to grade 5 to participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of daily physical activity at school. A physical activity period may not be denied as punishment or discipline. The bill does not prohibit a teacher from restricting a student's participation in physical activity if that participation presents a danger to the student or to others or if the restriction is consistent with the student's individual education plan. A teacher may provide an alternative physical activity for a student behaving inappropriately during a physical activity period. The bill prohibits a public school from using food as a reward or punishment for a student's behavior or performance in kindergarten to grade 12.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-81)

This amendment, which is the majority report, provides that the prohibition on the use of food as a reward or punishment for behavior or performance of a student does not apply if such use is consistent with the student's individual education plan. This amendment also adds a mandate preamble to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-121)

This amendment strikes the provisions in the bill and Committee Amendment "A" regarding the use of food as a reward or punishment.

Committee of Conference Amendment "A" (S-255)

This committee of conference amendment incorporates the changes made by Committee Amendment "A" and Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" and makes a change to the requirement that students participate in daily physical activity. It makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It adds a mandate preamble.
2. It requires students from kindergarten to grade 5 to participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of daily physical activity on average at school. The bill requires these students to participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity at school every day.
3. It strikes the provisions regarding the use of food as a reward or punishment.

LD 1184

Resolve, Requiring Rulemaking Regarding Special Education Requirements and Review of School Administrative Units That Do Not Operate Any Schools

RESOLVE 70

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	H-399

This bill provides that the responsibility for compliance with special education requirements for children with disabilities resides with the school the student attends if the school administrative unit in which the student resides does not own, lease or otherwise operate any schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-399)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Education to amend its rules governing special education to establish a process for the department to review sending school units with respect to children with disabilities who reside within the sending school unit who attend a receiving school.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 70 directs the Department of Education to amend its rules governing special education to

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establish a process for the department to review sending school units with respect to children with disabilities who reside within the sending school unit who attend a receiving school.

LD 1185 An Act To Enhance Efforts To Use Locally Produced Food in Schools CARRIED OVER

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

This bill requires a school administrative unit to report on its use of local foods in its school meal programs. It requires the Department of Education to make the reporting available to the public and to publish a list of schools that meet benchmarks for increasing the use of local foods. It also requires the Department of Education to establish rules to implement the provisions.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-233)

This amendment provides that school administrative units must determine and report at least annually the percentage of food purchased, grown or otherwise acquired for use in its elementary schools and secondary schools that is grown, raised or caught in the State as well as the percentage of dairy products purchased for use in its elementary schools and secondary schools that is produced in the State. It also adds an effective date of July 1, 2014.

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 1231 An Act To Amend the Compulsory School Attendance Laws VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT CAIN	OTP-AM ONTP	H-432

This bill amends the laws related to compulsory school attendance in order to improve the enforcement of federal and state requirements pertaining to compulsory school attendance in the State. The bill:

1. Changes the law regarding compulsory school age by:
 - A. Providing that a child who enrolls in a public day school before the child is 7 years of age is required to remain in attendance at a public day school or at an equivalent instruction alternative to attendance at a public day school in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5001-A, subsection 3; and
 - B. Changing the age when a child may stop attending school from 17 to 18 years of age;
2. Directs the Commissioner of Education to provide guidance to school boards, superintendents, principals and other school officials pertaining to the enforcement of the compulsory school attendance laws that require children to be enrolled from 7 years of age to 18 years of age in a public school or an equivalent instruction alternative. The enforcement guidance provided must clarify that a child who enrolls in a school administrative unit before the child is 7 years of age as allowed under Title 20-A, section 5201, subsection 2, paragraph B is required to remain in attendance at a public school or at an equivalent instruction alternative in accordance with Title 20-A, section