

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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126TH 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 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

5001-A; and

3. Directs the Commissioner of Education to provide guidance to school boards, superintendents, principals and other school officials regarding enforcement of federal and state laws related to student eligibility for certain federal and state welfare benefits and supplemental security income for children with disabilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-432)

This amendment, which is the majority report for the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to change the compulsory school attendance laws to provide 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 unless the child's parent provides school officials with a written notice of intent to withdraw the child from school and a written assurance that the child will be enrolled in a school before the child reaches 7 years of age.

LD 1235 An Act Regarding School Construction

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND MACDONALD W	OTP-AM	S-239 S-312 MILLETT

This bill requires the State Board of Education to amend its rules regarding major capital school construction projects to allow a school administrative unit to begin the school construction planning process without being penalized on any of the Department of Education's school construction priority lists.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-239)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the State Board of Education to adopt or amend the rules regarding major capital school construction projects to allow the top 20 school administrative units in the Department of Education's rating system used to develop any priority lists for funding school construction projects to begin the school construction planning process without being penalized under the rating system. The bill requires this without any limit. The amendment also strikes outdated provisions from the rule-making statute.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-312)

This amendment:

1. Changes from 20 to 12 the number of school administrative units that may begin the school construction preplanning process without being penalized under the Department of Education's rating system;
2. Specifies that "school construction preplanning process" includes working with the department and the State Board of Education on a collaborative process with interested stakeholders and community members to develop a unified vision for the school construction project;
3. Specifies that costs associated with the development of conceptual drawings by an architect may be reimbursable as a project cost, consistent with department rules, for projects approved by the department; and
4. Provides that a school administrative unit that engages in school construction preplanning may not be accorded any preference in the development by the department of any future priority lists for funding school construction projects.