

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

May 2014

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

The *Digest* is arranged 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.

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 HOUSESHouse & 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
EMERGENCYenacted 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 Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is August 1, 2014. 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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plan or specified by the school attended by the student.

3. It modifies the process by which diplomas are issued by the Department of Education to provide that the student applies to the commissioner and supplies evidence of achievement, that the commissioner forms a review team to review the evidence and make recommendations to the commissioner and the commissioner then makes the final determination.

4. It modifies the law governing school work recognition plans. It designates a responsible school for preparing the school work recognition plan and certain other materials. It removes a provision allowing the plan to be developed through email or teleconferencing, a provision providing that a plan is not required if an existing plan such as an individualized education plan or a transition plan addresses school completion, and the requirement that the plan include any local diploma requirements beyond state learning results. It establishes the process and responsibility for school work recognition plans in cases where the disruption is due to homelessness or foster care placement and in cases where the disruption is caused by enrollment in 3 or more schools or educational programs in a single school year.

LD 1330 An Act To Establish in Law a Method for Alternative Certification of Teachers ONTP

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

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill establishes an alternative pathway to teacher certification. Under this bill, programs that prepare persons for alternative certification are certified by the Commissioner of Education. The programs must provide targeted course work in teaching, mentoring or student teaching experience, classroom preparation and student assessments. Graduates of these programs are eligible to obtain professional teacher certificates. The bill also requires the State Board of Education to establish minimum standards of performance for these programs and, by October 31, 2016 to develop minimum standards of performance for all teacher preparation programs.

LD 1353 An Act To Further Reduce Student Hunger PUBLIC 445

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND BECK	OTP-AM	S-70 S-359 HILL

This bill was enacted by the Legislature during the First Regular Session of the 126th and was held by the Governor; final disposition occurred at the beginning of the Second Regular Session.

The bill requires a school administrative unit with a public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year to operate a federal summer food service program in the area served by that public school during the following summer vacation if that public school operates a summer educational or recreational program. The school administrative unit may collaborate with a service institution such as a local government, higher education institution or summer camp to operate the summer food service program.

It also requires such a school administrative unit that does not operate a summer educational or recreational program to collaborate with a service institution to operate a federal summer food service program if there is a service institution that provides food service to children in the summer in the area served by the public school.

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A school administrative unit required to operate a federal summer food service program may choose not to operate such a program if it determines by a vote of the governing body of the school administrative unit after notice and a public hearing that operating such a program would be financially or logistically impracticable.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-70)

This amendment removes the requirement that if a school administrative unit chooses not to operate a federal summer food service program, it must notify parents of children in the school administrative unit of its decision and the reasons for its decision.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-359)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 445 requires a school administrative unit with a public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year to operate a federal summer food service program in the area served by that public school during the following summer vacation if that public school operates a summer educational or recreational program. The school administrative unit may collaborate with a service institution such as a local government, higher education institution or summer camp to operate the summer food service program.

Chapter 445 also requires such a school administrative unit that does not operate a summer educational or recreational program to collaborate with a service institution to operate a federal summer food service program if there is a service institution that provides food service to children in the summer in the area served by the public school.

A school administrative unit required to operate a federal summer food service program may choose not to operate such a program if it determines by a vote of the governing body of the school administrative unit after notice and a public hearing that operating such a program would be financially or logistically impracticable.

**LD 1361 An Act To Strengthen the Teaching of Writing and Mathematics and ONTP
 Improve Maine High School Graduates' College and Career Readiness**

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

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The purpose of this bill is to strengthen the teaching of writing and mathematics in public schools in the State, to improve literacy and mathematics education and to improve Maine high school graduates' college and career readiness. The bill does the following.

1. It establishes a standards-based approach to assessing the proficiency and competency of new teachers and teachers seeking a renewal of a professional teacher certificate in order to prepare teachers and ensure that school administrative units are prepared to implement the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics.
2. It requires the Education Coordinating Committee to conduct a review of college placement tests, including the ACCUPLACER test, used by the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy and secondary schools in the State to determine a high school graduate's college readiness.