

# 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*

university campus and graduate with an associate degree within one year after receiving their high school diplomas.

Public Law 2013, chapter 318 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 21, 2013.

### **LD 1431     An Act To Support School Nutrition and Expand the Local Foods Economy**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C HICKMAN		

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Education to administer programs to support the expansion and coordination of the use of fresh local foods in public school food service programs. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is directed to provide grants in 2 phases for the identification of local food suppliers and the establishment of local food hubs to connect local food producers with public school food service programs and facilitate the operation of local food programs in schools. The bill also directs the Department of Education to develop and support local food training programs for public school food service personnel and facilitate the use of local food hubs to expand the use of local foods in schools. The bill also provides a bond issue in the amount of \$12,000,000 to be used to develop up to 10 local food hubs.

This bill was 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 1441     An Act To Align the Formation of Governing Boards of Career and Technical Education Regions with That of Other Public Schools**

**ACCEPTED  
MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill requires the members of the cooperative boards of career and technical education regions to be elected. Currently, members are appointed by the school boards of units within a region. This bill requires the State Board of Education to establish by rule election procedures and standards that the school boards of the units within each region must then choose among and adopt. The procedures and standards are required to be as similar as possible to those provided for the election of directors of school administrative districts. The bill provides for a transition period to allow for the adoption of rules by the state board, adoption of procedures by each region and the holding of the necessary elections.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-313)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and incorporates a fiscal note.

### **LD 1481     An Act To Ensure the Success of Maine Students**

**ONTP**

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

## *Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

This bill establishes a moratorium on the authorization of new public charter schools until all of the following conditions are met:

1. The State provides at least 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as defined by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; and

2. The State Board of Education finds that:

A. The research on public charter schools in the United States clearly and incontrovertibly demonstrates that public charter schools reliably improve education for students in a sustainable manner without increasing the cost to the statewide public education system and with no adverse effect on those students who are unable to attend a public charter school;

B. The existing public charter schools in Maine have improved education for students in a sustainable manner without increasing the cost to the statewide public education system and with no adverse effect on those students who are unable to attend a public charter school;

C. There is a clear and demonstrable need for additional public charter schools in Maine; and

D. The existing kindergarten to grade 12 public school facilities in Maine are entirely safe and conducive to learning.

### **LD 1502     An Act To Expand Student Access to Certain Career Information and Opportunities**

**ACCEPTED  
MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill requires school boards to allow implementation of the armed services vocational aptitude battery career exploration program developed by the United States Department of Defense. The program consists of aptitude testing, completion of a student interest inventory and use of career exploration guides and activities.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-312)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, incorporates a fiscal note.

### **LD 1503     An Act To Ensure Student Access to Postsecondary Military Options**

**DIED BETWEEN  
HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE CUSHING	ONTP OTP-AM	H-311 S-365   HILL

This bill requires publicly supported secondary schools and secondary public charter schools to provide uniformed recruiters for the United States Armed Forces or the Maine National Guard the same access to secondary school students as other postsecondary and career recruiters.