

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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STAFF:

PHILLIP D. MCCARTHY, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
JON CLARK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

STATE OF MAINE

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

trustees to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 13, 2013.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 367 amends the law establishing the membership of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation and requires the current board of trustees to amend the bylaws of the corporation by January 1, 2014 to establish the number, terms and qualifications of trustees of the corporation. The law provides that, beginning January 1, 2014, the membership of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation must include one member representing the University of Maine System appointed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and one member to be appointed by the Governor, who is subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and to confirmation by the Senate.

The law also provides that the chair of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation must provide a report including the proposed changes to the bylaws related to the corporation's board of trustees to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 13, 2013.

Public Law 2013, chapter 367 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 26, 2013.

**LD 1560 An Act To Allow Further Review of the Report Defining Cost
Responsibility for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Students Receiving
Services from the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of
Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf**

PUBLIC 347

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Public Law 2011, chapter 683. The bill amends section 11 of that law to extend the deadline for the joint standing committee to report out a bill. The bill allows the joint standing committee to report out a bill related to the report presented pursuant to section 11 to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 347 is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Public Law 2011, chapter 683. The law amends section 11 of that law to extend the deadline for the joint standing committee to report out a bill. The law allows the joint standing committee to report out a bill related to the report presented pursuant to section 11 to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

LD 1566 An Act Regarding School Budgets

**DIED IN
CONCURRENCE**

Sponsor(s)

MILLETT

Committee Report

OTP-AM
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

S-329

This bill permits a school board of a school administrative unit that requires a budget validation referendum to approve a budget to spend state funds that become available for fiscal year 2013-14 after the budget for the school administrative unit has been approved by the budget validation referendum without the need to submit the decision to an additional referendum.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (S-329)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment strikes and replaces the bill to provide that, for fiscal year 2013-14 only, after the budget for a school administrative unit for that fiscal year has been approved by a budget validation referendum and the school board of a school administrative unit declares that an emergency exists, it may call a special budget meeting for the purpose of obtaining the approval of the legislative body of the school administrative unit to expend the additional state funding or to reduce its warrant to the assessors of member municipalities for the collection of taxes to cover the municipalities' share of the school administrative unit's costs. The amendment also clarifies that the legislative body of a school administrative unit has the authority to decide how to expend additional state funding without the need to submit the decision made at a special budget meeting to an additional budget validation referendum.

LD 1573 An Act To Extend the Authorization for the Maine Education Effectiveness Council

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

Sponsor(s)

ALFOND

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill was acted upon without reference to committee.

This bill authorizes the Maine Education Effectiveness Council to continue meeting, if it so desires, until 2 weeks after the convening of the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.