

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
126<sup>TH</sup> 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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KAREN NADEAU-DRILLEN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

**STATE OF MAINE**  
126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
**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 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 Second Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> 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.

*Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

**LD 1638**

**An Act To Improve Educational Outcomes for Students in Poverty in  
Maine's Public Schools**

**ONTP**

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

This bill removes provisions that require the amount of a school administrative unit's state contribution to be reduced by the amount that school administrative unit receives in federal Title I funds. It removes references pertaining to the allocation of federal resources from the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. It also allows the Department of Education to audit a school administrative unit that receives federal Title I funds to ensure that these funds are expended in compliance with federal law. It contains an appropriations section to provide funds to support the increase in the cost of providing essential programs and services to students in kindergarten to grade 12 as a result of the adjustment of federal Title I funds being removed from the calculation of teaching and other staff costs within the essential programs and services model.

**LD 1657 An Act To Ensure Equity in Teacher Retirement Costs for Private Academies**

**PUBLIC 497  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY NELSON	OTP-AM	S-416

This bill provides that, for the 2013-2014 school year only, the maximum allowable tuition charged to a school administrative unit by a private school that participates in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System must be increased above the amount otherwise permitted by an amount equal to 60% of the calculated normal cost of teacher retirement for that school divided by the number of enrolled students as of October 1, 2012. Current law allows this increase in the maximum allowable tuition for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years and allows the entire cost of teacher retirement to be recovered through the tuition increase. The bill also corrects a conflict that was created when two public laws amended the same provision of law.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-416)**

This amendment provides that, for the 2013-2014 school year only, the maximum allowable tuition charged to a school administrative unit by a private school that participates in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System must be increased above the amount otherwise permitted by an amount equal to the calculated normal cost of teacher retirement for that school divided by the number of enrolled students as of October 1, 2012. The bill proposed to increase this amount by only 60% of the calculated normal cost of teacher retirement.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 497 provides that, for the 2013-2014 school year only, the maximum allowable tuition charged to a school administrative unit by a private school that participates in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System must be increased above the amount otherwise permitted by an amount equal to the calculated normal cost of teacher retirement for that school divided by the number of enrolled students as of October 1, 2012.

Public Law 2013, chapter 497 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 2, 2014.