

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1703

An Act To Increase College Affordability and the Rate of Degree Completion

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND WILLETTE	OTP-AM	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill would implement a comprehensive strategy to keep the cost of public postsecondary education in the State affordable, thereby increasing the graduation rate from state public institutions of higher education. The comprehensive strategy may include, but is not limited to:

1. Adoption of Oregon's "Pay Forward, Pay Back" pilot project's model of funding public postsecondary education, under which a student enrolled in a public institution of higher education, in lieu of paying tuition or fees, contracts to pay to the State a certain percentage of the student's annual income upon graduation for a specified number of years;
2. Scholarships to provide incentives for degree completion with agreements to remain in the State after graduation for specified periods. Under this program, a full scholarship for the 4th and final year of school at a public institution of higher education will be provided to students who agree to work in the State for a certain period of time following graduation;
3. Tuition guarantees that ensure that students will pay the same tuition for four years while attending one of the State's public institutions of higher education;
4. Low interest rates for student loans issued by the State for students meeting certain criteria, such as financial need, academic merit, graduating within four years or agreeing to work in public service for a certain period after graduation;
5. Adoption of performance-based higher education funding that links the level of funding of a state public institution of higher education to a metric such as the graduation rate of that state public institution of higher education;
6. Transition from the provision of tax credits for higher education to the provision of state grants and other forms of financial aid for higher education;
7. Increased funding to the State of Maine Grant Program;
8. Facilitation of expedient graduation through establishment of dual enrollment programs and so-called three plus 1 programs, in which students attend community colleges for three years and transfer for the final year to a four-year program at another of the State's public institutions of higher education; and
9. Expansion of online learning opportunities, including the use of online course providers to develop online courses.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-489)

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve to establish the Task Force To Increase College Affordability and the Rate of Degree Completion. The task force is directed to study and make recommendations on issues associated with college affordability and degree completion and develop a 10-year statewide economic and policy strategy. The task force is required to submit a report by January 31, 2015 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters. The report submitted by the task force must include findings, recommendations and any suggested legislation. The joint standing committee of

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters may submit a bill related to this report to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

LD 1716 An Act To Increase the Rate of Reimbursement for Providing Career and Academic Advising and Counseling Services to Adult Education Students

PUBLIC 460

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROTUNDO	OTP-AM	H-616

Currently, career and academic advising and counseling costs incurred by local adult education programs are considered administrative costs under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 8607-A, subsection 1 and reimbursed at a rate of 70% of those costs. This bill requires that career and academic advising and counseling costs incurred by local adult education programs, because those services are provided directly to students, be reimbursed at the rate of 75% of those costs, which is the same as the reimbursement rate for courses for students.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-616)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 460 requires that career and academic advising and counseling costs incurred by local adult education programs must be reimbursed at the rate of 75% of those costs, which is the same as the reimbursement rate for courses for students.

LD 1726 An Act Directing the Department of Education To Formulate and Implement a Citizenship Educational Component for the School Curriculum

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PETERSON JOHNSON C	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill amends the law requiring instruction in history, government and citizenship in elementary and secondary schools. This bill specifies instruction be provided concerning different models of local government and the history, organization and operation of the Federal Government and of Maine government.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-676)

This amendment, which is the minority report, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1727 An Act To Establish Guidelines for the Stocking and Administration of Epinephrine Autoinjectors in Schools

PUBLIC 526

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PETERSON JOHNSON C	OTP-AM	H-779

This bill establishes guidelines for the stocking and administering of epinephrine auto injectors by schools.