

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
127<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**

August 2015

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127<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 127<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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i> .....	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i> .....	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i> ....	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of enacted private &amp; special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of enacted public law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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 59**      **An Act To Protect Students' Rights and Privacy Regarding Their School Records**      **PUBLIC 97**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FOLEY COLLINS	OTP-AM	H-55

This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to adopt rules regarding dissemination of student information by schools not covered under current law. These rules are major substantive rules and must include substantially the same prohibitions and standards regarding dissemination of student information as applicable to publicly funded schools. The commissioner is required to recommend an appropriate penalty for a violation of the rules to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 2016.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-55)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the section of the bill that adds a new section to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 221, subchapter 1 related to the dissemination of student information by certain private schools that are not covered under current law. The amendment establishes substantially the same standards and prohibitions applicable to publicly funded schools for private schools approved by the Department of Education and private schools recognized by the department as providing equivalent instruction.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 97 adds a new section to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 221, subchapter 1 related to the prohibitions and standards regarding dissemination of student information by certain private schools that are not covered under current law. The law establishes substantially the same standards and prohibitions applicable to publicly funded schools for private schools approved by the Department of Education and private schools recognized by the department as providing equivalent instruction. The law also directs the Commissioner of Education to recommend an appropriate penalty for a violation of these standards and prohibitions to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 2016. The committee is authorized to report out a bill to implement a penalty for a violation of these standards and prohibitions to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

**LD 60**      **An Act To Ensure Proper Funding for Teacher Retirement**      **Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KUMIEGA LIBBY	OTP-AM ONTP	H-14

This bill changes the method for funding teacher retirement costs. It repeals those provisions of law enacted pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368 that require school administrative units and private schools to pay for teacher retirement.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-14)**

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.