

# 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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# STATE OF MAINE

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*

involves a government entity partnering with a service provider or outside investor that provides the financing for the project or service that is the object of the bond with the government entity not being required to pay back the bond unless success is demonstrated by a measurable outcome.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-10)**

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs as it incorporates a fiscal note.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2015, chapter 52 requires the University of Maine System's Education Research Institute to study the use of social impact bonds to fund extended learning programs and prekindergarten programs. The Education Research Institute must submit a report of this study, including any recommended legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 2, 2015. The committee may report out a bill based upon the report to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

**LD 419**

### **An Act To Establish the Summer Success Program Fund**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE T	OTP-AM ONTP	H-450

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the current law to promote the establishment and expansion of summer school programs for elementary and secondary school students. The bill proposes that:

1. Elementary and secondary schools be provided with additional resources and incentives to establish or expand summer school programs that enhance the academic opportunities for Maine students;
2. The Department of Education provide elementary and secondary schools with examples of effective models of summer school programs that improve student performance, including model programs that involve school networking and partnerships with community-based organizations such as the Maine Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs that provide summer activities to align and leverage existing resources, improve program quality and develop shared outcomes for student success; and
3. The current provisions in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A related to funding summer school programs be amended to provide additional funds for the establishment and expansion of summer school programs for elementary and secondary school students. The amendments to the current law may include, but are not limited to:
  - A. Providing an adjustment of the state share of the total allocation to qualifying school administrative units for the costs of establishing or expanding summer school programs for elementary and secondary school students; or
  - B. Providing qualifying school administrative units with the allocation of state grants to be awarded on an annual basis by the Department of Education for the establishment and expansion of summer school programs for elementary and secondary school students.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-450)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the concept draft to establish the Summer Success Program Fund, a dedicated fund to be directed and administered by the Commissioner of Education and held by the Treasurer of State, to encourage the facilitation of high-quality summer success programs in school

*Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

administrative units throughout the State. The amendment proposes the following.

1. It provides that money paid into the fund may include General Fund appropriations, as well as grants, gifts and other money from any unit of federal, state or local government or from any person, firm, partnership or corporation for deposit to the fund and money received from a social impact bond. It requires that school administrative units ensure that grants provided from the fund for expanding access to summer success programs supplement and not supplant federal funding.
2. It requires the commissioner to administer the fund within the Department of Education and to establish standards and approval for the allocation and use of fund money for summer success programs offered at elementary or secondary schools in the State. It also allows the commissioner to include the following in the standards:
  - A. Guidelines similar to the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers program to close the achievement gap between economically disadvantaged students and their peers;
  - B. Effective models of summer success programs that involve networking and partnerships with community-based organizations that provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development; and
  - C. Implementation of the formative and summative assessment methods to measure student achievement in order to monitor the progress of students participating in summer success programs.
3. It provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2016-17, the department is required to provide grant funding, through a grant application process, to cover 90 percent of the costs of summer success programs in school administrative units with greater than 50 percent student participation in the federal free and reduced-price lunch program.
4. It adds the fund to the enhancing student performance and opportunity provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.
5. It requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 15, 2015 that outlines the proposed rules to implement the fund by the 2016-2017 school year.

It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was carried over on the Special Appropriations Table to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 555.

**LD 428      An Act To Amend the Powers and Duties of the State Board of Education**

**PUBLIC 72**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY KORNFELD	OTP	

This bill specifically authorizes the State Board of Education to enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement regarding postsecondary distance education, to administer the agreement and to approve or disapprove an application to participate in the agreement from a postsecondary institution that has its principal campus in the State.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 72 specifically authorizes the State Board of Education to enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement regarding postsecondary distance education, to administer the agreement and to approve or