

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH 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

127TH 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 127th 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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & 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 127th 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

request of a school or school administrative unit. The law requires compliance with the Student Information Privacy Act by the 2016-2017 school year when an operator has signed a contract with the Department of Education, a school administrative unit or a school prior to enactment.

**LD 461 An Act To Change the Notification Deadline for the Nonrenewal of a
Teacher's Contract**

PUBLIC 65

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAKER EDGECOMB P	OTP-AM	H-51

This bill changes the deadline for a superintendent to notify a teacher of the superintendent's decision not to renew the teacher's contract from at least six months before the terminal date of the contract to at least 90 days before the terminal date of the contract. It also requires the school administrative unit to pay a forfeiture to the teacher if this deadline is not met.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-51)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to provide that the deadline for a superintendent to notify a teacher of the superintendent's decision not to renew the teacher's contract is at least six months before the terminal date of the contract except for teachers who received a summative effectiveness rating indicating ineffectiveness pursuant to the performance evaluation and professional growth system established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 508 for the preceding school year. The amendment also requires that unless the superintendent provides a written notice to the contrary not later than May 15th to a teacher who received a summative effectiveness rating indicating ineffectiveness pursuant to chapter 508 for the preceding school year, the teacher's contract must be extended automatically for one year.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 65 provides that the deadline for a superintendent to notify a teacher of the superintendent's decision not to renew the teacher's contract is at least six months before the terminal date of the contract except for teachers who received a summative effectiveness rating indicating ineffectiveness pursuant to the performance evaluation and professional growth system established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 508 for the preceding school year. The law also requires that unless the superintendent provides a written notice to the contrary not later than May 15th to a teacher who received a summative effectiveness rating indicating ineffectiveness pursuant to chapter 508 for the preceding school year, the teacher's contract must be extended automatically for one year.

**LD 462 An Act To Clarify Rulemaking for Transportation of Public School
Students**

PUBLIC 73

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL LANGLEY	OTP-AM	H-62

This bill removes from the education laws rule-making language regarding the transportation of public preschool students.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-62)

This amendment requires the Department of Education to adopt major substantive rules in the event that the Federal Government or the State requires transportation to be provided for public preschool children.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 73 removes from the education laws rule-making language regarding the transportation of public preschool students. The law also requires the Department of Education to adopt major substantive rules in the event that the Federal Government or the State requires transportation to be provided for public preschool children.

LD 463 An Act Regarding Eligibility of Children Placed in Guardianship for the School Lunch and Milk Program ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to provide that a student placed in legal guardianship is eligible for free meals under the school lunch and milk program in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 223, subchapter 7 without considering the income of the student's guardian.

LD 464 An Act To Improve Science and Engineering Education for Maine's Students Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEVIN DILL	OTP-AM	H-43 S-60 LANGLEY

This bill requires the Department of Education to include the so-called Next Generation Science Standards for kindergarten to grade 12 in the State's system of learning results and assessment and directs the Commissioner of Education to amend Department of Education rules on or before December 31, 2015 in order to include the science standards as part of the State's system of learning results and assessment beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-43)

This amendment removes the requirement that the assessment of the Next Generation Science Standards for kindergarten to grade 12 must be implemented beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. The amendment also changes the language to clarify that the amendments to the Department of Education rules chapters must be provisionally adopted and submitted to the Legislature for legislative review during the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-60)

This amendment changes the date by which the Department of Education is required to provisionally adopt rules from December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2016 and requires the rules to be submitted to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.