

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

**LD 536 An Act To Amend Provisions Regarding the Appointment of Members of
the Maine Charter School Commission**

**Died Between
Houses**

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

This bill amends the provisions that apply to the appointment of the four members of the Maine Charter School Commission, who are currently nominated and appointed by the three members of the State Board of Education subject only to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and majority vote of the state board, to provide instead for nomination by the three members of the state board for appointment by the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and confirmation by the Senate.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-316)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment makes changes to the provisions in the bill that apply to the appointment of four of the seven members of the Maine Charter School Commission. Instead of having the Governor appoint the four commission members nominated by the three members of the State Board of Education appointed to the commission by the state board, the amendment provides that the four commission members are nominated by those three members of the state board appointed to the commission and are subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and to confirmation by the Senate.

**LD 537 An Act To Avoid the Inappropriate Use of Assessment Tools on Children
before Grade 3**

PUBLIC 183

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAUGHTRY	OTP-AM	H-198

This bill prohibits the Commissioner of Education from establishing a statewide assessment program to measure and evaluate on a continuing basis the academic achievements of students in prekindergarten to grade two.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-198)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment adds a provision to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A related to the early childhood educational programs for children ages four to nine to clarify that early childhood statewide assessment tools are used to inform instruction and to communicate effectively with parents, but that the statewide assessments of early childhood programs must avoid the inappropriate use of assessment information.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 183 adds a provision to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A related to the early childhood educational programs for children ages four to nine to clarify that early childhood statewide assessment tools are used to inform instruction and to communicate effectively with parents, but that the statewide assessments of early childhood programs must avoid the inappropriate use of assessment information.