

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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PHILLIP D. MCCARTHY, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
CRAIG NALE, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

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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 578 **An Act To Redefine the Method by Which the Department of Education Determines Cost Sharing for School Construction and Renovation Projects for Municipalities within a School Administrative Unit** **Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the current education statutes pertaining to the methods by which the Department of Education determines how the costs for school construction and renovation projects are shared among the member municipalities of a school administrative unit. The bill would implement:

1. An alternative method for determining the sharing of costs for a school construction or renovation project among member municipalities of a school administrative unit comparable to the methods established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1481-A, subsection 3; and
2. An amendment to the provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act regarding the sharing of debt service costs related to school construction and renovation projects in order to more equitably distribute the local share of school construction and renovation project costs among the member municipalities of a school administrative unit by including the number of resident pupils in each municipality and the property fiscal capacity of each municipality as the basis for sharing the debt service costs related to school construction and renovation projects.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-263)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the concept draft. It provides an alternative method for determining cost sharing for school construction and renovation projects for the member municipalities within a school administrative district, community school district or regional school unit.

LD 579 **An Act To Allow Teachers To Teach and Students To Learn by Amending the Laws Governing Education Standards** **ONTP**

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

This bill repeals the requirements for a system of proficiency-based education standards scheduled to become effective in 2017.

LD 601 **An Act To Clarify the Authority of Individualized Education Plans in Relation to Proficiency-based Diplomas** **ONTP**

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

This bill allows a child with a disability who demonstrates proficiency through the use of evidence and alternative measures specified in the child's individualized education plan to be awarded a high school diploma.