

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

STAFF:

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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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 793 Resolve, To Examine Unfunded Mandates in the Education Laws and ONTP
To Recommend Unfunded Mandates To Be Eliminated

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

This resolve establishes a work group to examine unfunded mandates in the education laws. The work group is charged with reviewing three reports on unfunded education mandates and determining which unfunded mandates have been addressed, which ones still exist and which ones should be addressed as a matter of priority. The work group is required to make recommendations as to how to best address those unfunded mandates determined to be priorities and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than December 2, 2015. The joint standing committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

LD 794 An Act To Ensure That Funding to the University of Maine System Is ONTP
Used Efficiently

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

This bill requires that the University of Maine System allocate a certain percentage of its annual funding to faculty salaries, classroom technology and supplies directly related to student learning in the classroom.

LD 840 An Act To Collect and Report Data on the Implementation of PUBLIC 367
Proficiency-based Diplomas and Standards-based Student Learning

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL LANGLEY	OTP-AM	H-292

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to require the State to advance implementation of proficiency-based diplomas and a standards-based system of education by using strategic planning, monitoring and economies of scale to accelerate implementation of the diplomas and system at the local level. The bill proposes to meet these goals by:

1. Requiring the Department of Education to develop a five-year plan and budget to outline strategic supports for the implementation of proficiency-based diplomas under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4722-A and submit the plan and budget to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 31, 2016;
2. Requiring the Department of Education annually to collect and report progress towards the implementation of proficiency-based diplomas in public schools, public charter schools and private schools under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2951, subsection 5, including the number of students graduating with proficiency-based diplomas and the number of students awarded proficiency in each of the content areas of the system of learning results established under Title 20-A, section 6209 and the guiding principles set forth in department rules governing implementation of the system of learning results established pursuant to Title 20-A, section 6209;
3. Maintaining school administrative unit per-pupil subsidies at the current rate;