

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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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 1042 Resolve, To Create the Task Force on School Leadership

**RESOLVE 46
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY FARNSWORTH	OTP-AM	S-162 S-332 MASON

This resolve establishes the Task Force on School Leadership to conduct a comprehensive study on excellence in school leadership in prekindergarten to grade 12 public schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-162)

This amendment changes the task force membership by adding a middle school principal and adding a teacher who has a school administrator certificate.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-332)

This amendment removes one Senate member and one House of Representatives member from the Task Force on School Leadership and limits the task force to two meetings.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 46 establishes the Task Force on School Leadership to conduct a comprehensive study on excellence in school leadership in prekindergarten to grade 12 public schools. The task force must submit a report, including its findings, recommendations and suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than December 2, 2015. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

Resolve 2015, chapter 46 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 12, 2015.

LD 1047 An Act To Allow for Collaboration in Public Charter Schools

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill clarifies that a public charter school may enroll students from outside the State and accept tuition for those students if there is space available because the public charter school did not reach its full capacity under the public charter school's application. The bill provides that a public charter school also may admit out-of-state students if the public charter school's proposed vision or plans according to the public charter school's application would be enhanced by the attendance of students from outside the State. The bill also allows a public charter school to operate in association with a private school if the public charter school complies with the provisions in law concerning public charter schools, the public charter school's operations comply with the public charter school's contract and the public charter school's finances are accounted for separately from the finances of the private school.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-208)

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment clarifies that a public charter school may enroll students from outside the State and accept tuition for those students if there is space available because the public charter school did not reach its capacity under the public

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

charter school's application and the public charter school's proposed vision and plans according to the public charter school's application would be enhanced by the attendance of students from outside the State. The amendment also strikes the provision in the bill that allows a public charter school to operate in association with a private school if the public charter school complies with the provisions in law concerning public charter schools, the public charter school's operations comply with the public charter school's contract and the public charter school's finances are accounted for separately from the finances of the private school.

LD 1048 An Act To Allow School Administrative District No. 27 To Transfer Ownership of the St. Francis Elementary School to the Town of St. Francis

**P & S 4
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J EDGECOMB P	OTP	

This emergency bill authorizes the board of directors of School Administrative District No. 27 to transfer ownership of the St. Francis Elementary School building and its site to the Town of St. Francis, subject to the approval of the voters of the Town of St. Francis. The bill authorizes the municipal officers of the Town of St. Francis to lease a portion of the St. Francis Elementary School building and its site back to School Administrative District No. 27 for educational purposes, and, subject to applicable law, the town's municipal officers are authorized to renovate, use, lease, sell, mortgage or otherwise convey the property, subject to any leasehold rights of School Administrative District No. 27 for educational purposes. The bill also provides that, as long as School Administrative District No. 27 leases any portion of the property, the other uses of the property must be compatible with use of the property for educational purposes as reasonably determined by the district's board of directors.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2015, chapter 4 authorizes the board of directors of School Administrative District No. 27 to transfer ownership of the St. Francis Elementary School building and its site to the Town of St. Francis, subject to the approval of the voters of the Town of St. Francis. The law authorizes the municipal officers of the Town of St. Francis to lease a portion of the St. Francis Elementary School building and its site back to School Administrative District No. 27 for educational purposes, and, subject to applicable law, the town's municipal officers are authorized to renovate, use, lease, sell, mortgage or otherwise convey the property, subject to any leasehold rights of School Administrative District No. 27 for educational purposes. The law also provides that, as long as School Administrative District No. 27 leases any portion of the property, the other uses of the property must be compatible with use of the property for educational purposes as reasonably determined by the district's board of directors.

Private and Special Law 2015, chapter 4 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2015.

LD 1064 Resolve, To Establish the Maine Summer Success Program

ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Department of Education to develop the Maine Summer Success Program, which would use the results of a series of tests in order to identify students who are not achieving their grade levels of competence and to see who would benefit from attendance at such a program. The department is directed to explore the use of social impact bonds to fund the program. The department is to report its development plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 2, 2015.