

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 1220

An Act To Increase Funding for the Maine Community College System

**Died On
Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCABE LIBBY	OTP-AM ONTP	H-107

This bill provides a five percent increase in appropriations to the Maine Community College System for the 2015-2016 biennium.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-107)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1222

**An Act To Remove Barriers to School Construction Financing in
Regional School Units**

PUBLIC 181

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BABBIDGE COLLINS	OTP-AM	H-197

This bill authorizes a regional school unit to issue bonds that may be repaid using a level debt payment structure.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-197)

This amendment provides that the level debt payment structure authorized in the bill applies only to a regional school unit that issues bonds for a non-state-funded school construction project that is 100 percent locally funded. The amendment also authorizes a level debt payment structure only if the payment structure results in lower costs for the regional school unit throughout the life of the issue of the bonds.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 181 authorizes a regional school unit that issues bonds for a non-state-funded school construction project that is 100 percent locally funded to issue bonds that may be repaid using a level debt payment structure. The law authorizes a level debt payment structure only if the payment structure results in lower costs for the regional school unit throughout the life of the issue of the bonds.

LD 1229

**Resolve, To Create a Pilot Program To Conduct Screenings for Scotopic
Sensitivity Syndrome**

ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Department of Education to design and implement a scotopic sensitivity syndrome screening pilot program in 10 elementary schools to screen children in grades three to six for scotopic sensitivity syndrome in the 2016-2017 school year and report its findings and results to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters. The joint standing committee may report out a bill related to the report to the 128th Legislature.