

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
127<sup>TH</sup> 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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127<sup>TH</sup> 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of enacted private &amp; 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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.