

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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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 1230 An Act To Create a Digital Content Library for Education

**PUBLIC 372
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY HUBBELL	OTP-AM	S-146

This bill creates a digital portal for education, which makes digital texts and online courses available to all students through a common statewide platform administered by the Commissioner of Education. This bill allows providers of digital texts and online courses to install them onto the portal at their own expense and set the fee charged for enrollment in or subscription to the digital text or online course. The commissioner is required to maintain a catalog of available digital texts and online courses.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-146)

This amendment replaces the bill, which establishes a digital portal for education, and instead creates a digital content library, which makes digital educational content and learning resources available to all students through a method determined by the Commissioner of Education and based upon the recommendations of a digital content library advisory group.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 372 creates a digital content library, which makes digital educational content and learning resources that further the State's educational initiatives available to all students through a method determined by the Commissioner of Education and based upon the recommendations of a digital content library advisory group.

Public Law 2015, chapter 372 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 16, 2015.

LD 1235 Resolve, To Strengthen Standards-based Diplomas

RESOLVE 41

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND HUBBELL	OTP-AM	S-206

This bill changes the date by which the Department of Education's working group is required to develop and submit for review standards, assessments and assessment criteria for determining student proficiency as part of the development of a standards-based system of education. The bill also requires the working group to begin meeting as soon as practicable and that all meetings be open to the public.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-206)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve and creates the Maine Proficiency Education Council to study and make recommendations for a five-year plan for the full implementation of proficiency-based graduation requirements across the State in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4722-A. The Commissioner of Education shall submit a report including the recommendations of the council to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 1, 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 41 creates the Maine Proficiency Education Council to study and make recommendations for a five-year plan for the full implementation of proficiency-based graduation requirements across the State in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4722-A. The Commissioner of Education must