

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.

CARRIED OVER carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-280)

This amendment retains the provisions in the bill that:

1. Direct the Department of Education to terminate the State's membership in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and adopt a method of educational assessment that complies with federal law but does not collect or disseminate personal data and attributes of students, such as attitudes, values, motivations, stereotypes and feelings; and
2. Require that personally identifying data of a student derived from a state assessment of student achievement be disseminated only with the express written permission of each of the student's parents or guardians or of the student, if of majority age.

The amendment makes the following changes to the bill:

1. It removes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause;
2. It removes the requirement that the State's participation in or entrance into an agreement with an organization, consortium or association in establishing or implementing standards and a state assessment of student performance be done through major substantive rules;
3. It requires that the state assessment of student achievement be selected with direct input from education stakeholders and must specifically address the needs of students and citizens of the State; and
4. It removes the prohibition of a state assessment of student achievement from being aligned with the so-called common core state standards.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-219)

This amendment removes the provision that requires that personally identifying data of a student derived from a state assessment of student achievement be disseminated only with the express written permission of each of the student's parents or guardians or the student, if the student is of majority age.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2015, chapter 10 directs the Department of Education to terminate the State's membership in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and adopt a method of education assessment that complies with federal law but does not collect or disseminate personal data and attributes of students, such as attitudes, values, motivations, stereotypes or feelings. The law also requires that a state assessment of student achievement be developed for the 2015-2016 school year and each school year thereafter.

LD 1277

An Act To Establish a Magnet School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering

PUBLIC 363

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY LANGLEY	OTP-AM	H-314

This bill establishes the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering as a public magnet school for the purpose of providing certain high-achieving high school students with a challenging educational experience. The school will be located in the Town of Searsport and will serve students from throughout the State. Students from other states and countries may attend on a space-available basis. The bill also corrects a cross-reference.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (H-314)

This amendment provides that:

1. The Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering may implement the plan established for operating the magnet school pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 8236, subsection 2 during the 2017-2018 school year;
2. All powers, duties and authority of the school cease 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature; and
3. The school's board of trustees is required to provide a report to the Legislature by December 1, 2018 on the commencement and operations of the school. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters may report out a bill relating to the school to the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature, which may include but is not limited to a repeal of the provision of law that terminates the powers, duties and authority of the school 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 363 establishes the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering as a public magnet school for the purpose of providing certain high-achieving high school students with a challenging educational experience. The law provides that:

1. The Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering may implement the plan established for operating the magnet school pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 8236, subsection 2 during the 2017-2018 school year;
2. All powers, duties and authority of the school cease 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature; and
3. The school's board of trustees is required to provide a report to the Legislature by December 1, 2018 on the commencement and operations of the school. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters may report out a bill relating to the school to the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature, which may include but is not limited to a repeal of the provision of law that terminates the powers, duties and authority of the school 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 1281	An Act To Reduce the Burden on Local Communities of Transportation Costs for Special Needs Students	ONTP
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER GINZLER	ONTP	

This bill proposes to limit the costs for special education transportation services for each school administrative unit that incurs special education costs that exceed \$20,000 for transportation services required to assist a child with a disability. The bill provides that the Commissioner of Education must pay 100 percent of the costs authorized for special education transportation services that exceed \$20,000 annually for each eligible child with a disability within the jurisdiction of the school administrative unit.

The bill also amends the statutes related to the annual review of the essential programs and services components