

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.

| | |
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| <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

learning results and instead provides that a diploma indicating graduation must be based on student demonstration of proficiency in at least two content areas established under the system of learning results.

5. It provides that an endorsement of content area proficiency must be included in a student's academic transcript as an official credential of academic achievement of content area proficiency.

6. It directs the Department of Education to adopt or amend rules pursuant to Title 20-A, section 253, subsection 9 by December 31, 2015 in order to implement the new blended system beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-352)

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

LD 1394

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Resolve 2013, chapter 114, section 10. The bill incorporates changes to the education statutes and rules proposed by the Commission To Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula that the commission's report indicated are necessary to implement its recommendations.

The joint standing committee has not taken a position on the substance of the report or this bill, and by submitting this bill the joint standing committee is not suggesting and does not intend to suggest that it agrees or disagrees with any aspect of the recommendations and the necessary changes to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, included in the report or this bill. The committee is submitting the bill for the sole purpose of turning the proposals in the report into a printed bill that can be referred to the joint standing committee for an appropriate public hearing and subsequent processing in the normal course of business. The joint standing committee is taking this action to ensure clarity and transparency in the legislative review of the proposals included in the report submitted by the commission.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 1396 An Act Regarding Educational Standards for Maine Students

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

GERRISH
EDGEComb P

ONTP
OTP-AM

This bill provides Maine students and teachers with high-quality content standards that have been demonstrated as some of the best state standards in the nation. The bill accomplishes the following with regard to the statewide content standards, statewide assessment programs, the comparison of recent and proposed content standards and statewide assessment programs and the release of personally identifiable data.

With regard to content standards, the bill: