

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
127<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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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 Second 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.

*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 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 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature is July 29, 2016. 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-628)**

This amendment reduces the membership of the Task Force on Public-private Partnerships To Support Public Education from 17 members to 12 members. The amendment removes the requirement that the task force develop a pilot project for the implementation of performance-based contracting and social impact bonding with private and governmental entities to support public education and instead requires the task force to make recommendations regarding the viability of implementing performance-based contracting and social impact partnerships with private and governmental entities to support public education. The amendment permits the task force to seek private funds to fund its costs. The amendment changes the date the task force must submit its report to the Legislature from November 2, 2016 to January 15, 2017.

### **Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-541)**

This amendment specifies that the Task Force on Public-private Partnerships To Support Public Education is required to seek funding contributions to fully fund the costs of the task force and that the task force may not meet if sufficient outside funding is not received.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2016, chapter 89 establishes the Task Force on Public-private Partnerships To Support Public Education. The task force has 12 members, including legislative members, the Commissioner of Education and members representing philanthropic, business and financing interests who have experience in performance-based contracting in the social sector or social impact partnerships. The task force must research the various aspects of the issues related to using performance-based contracting and social impact partnerships to support public education and make recommendations regarding the viability of implementing performance-based contracting and social impact partnerships with private and governmental entities to support public education. The task force must seek funding contributions to fully fund the costs of the task force and may not meet if sufficient outside funding is not received. The task force must report its findings to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature no later than January 15, 2017. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs may report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature based on the task force's report.

Resolve 2016, chapter 89 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 29, 2016.

**LD 1684**

### **An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Task Force on School Leadership**

**Veto Sustained**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

S-450 LANGLEY B

This bill was reported ought to pass by the committee pursuant to Resolve 2015, chapter 46, section 7. The bill includes certain recommendations proposed in the report submitted by the Task Force on School Leadership established by that resolve.

The bill allows school administrative units to enter into collaborative agreements to establish regional school leadership academies that combine state and local programs and resources, including the preparation, licensure, certification, professional development and training for educational leadership, into a coherent system that can significantly improve the recruitment and preparation of prospective candidates for school principalship and other school leadership positions, as well as the induction, mentoring and retention of principals and school leaders during the first two years of employment in their school leadership positions. The bill includes an appropriations and allocations section.

### **Senate Amendment "A" (S-450)**

*Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

The bill requires the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to provide certain services and resources to assist school administrative units that form a regional school leadership academy. This amendment allows the department and the board to provide these services. The amendment removes the appropriations and allocations section from the bill.

**LD 1699 An Act To Provide Relief for Significant Reductions in Municipal Property Fiscal Capacity**

**PUBLIC 487**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHITTEMORE R MCCABE J		H-670 MCCABE J H-673 GOODE A

This bill was not referred to a committee.

The bill changes the determination for property fiscal capacity as used to determine the amount of state aid a school administrative unit receives under the school funding formula if a municipality has experienced a decline in state valuation of at least 4.5% attributable to one taxpayer. Under this bill, the State Tax Assessor is required to certify to the Commissioner of Education when a municipality's state valuation has declined by at least 4.5% from the previous year's certified state valuation and the decline is due to the loss in value attributable to a single taxpayer. When those conditions have been met, the property fiscal capacity for that municipality is the average of the most recently certified state valuation and the certified state valuations for the three years prior to the most recently certified year.

The bill requires the commissioner to identify savings from unused debt service in order to maintain the mill rate expectation of 8.30 for fiscal year 2016-17.

**House Amendment "A" (H-670)**

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause from the bill.

**House Amendment "B" (H-673)**

This amendment limits to fiscal year 2016-17 the change in the determination for property fiscal capacity as used to determine the amount of state aid a school administrative unit receives under the school funding formula if a municipality has experienced a decline in state valuation of at least 4.5% attributable to one taxpayer.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 487 changes the determination for property fiscal capacity as used to determine the amount of state aid a school administrative unit receives in fiscal year 2016-17 under the school funding formula if a municipality has experienced a decline in state valuation of at least 4.5% attributable to one taxpayer. Under this bill, the State Tax Assessor is required to certify to the Commissioner of Education when a municipality's state valuation has declined by at least 4.5% from the previous year's certified state valuation and the decline is due to the loss in value attributable to a single taxpayer. When those conditions have been met, the property fiscal capacity for that municipality is the average of the most recently certified state valuation and the certified state valuations for the three years prior to the most recently certified year. The law also requires the Commissioner of Education to identify savings from unused debt service in order to maintain the mill rate expectation of 8.30 for fiscal year 2016-17.