

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2017

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 128th 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 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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

attract students to teacher education programs in colleges and universities in the State and to retain those students to teach in schools in the State after graduation. The bill also proposes to identify components of effective teacher preparation programs in colleges and universities, including, but not limited to, educating teachers to use technology in the classroom in new ways. To encourage new teachers to stay in the State, the bill also proposes to establish a tuition reduction and loan repayment program for new teachers who teach in the State for five years after graduation.

LD 228 An Act To Amend the Mathematics Requirements for High School Graduation CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY B MALABY R		

This bill prohibits requiring the secondary course of study in schools from including an advanced algebra course and prohibits requiring students to achieve proficiency in advanced algebra. The bill requires the Commissioner of Education to amend the rules by the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year requiring students to complete an advanced algebra course.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

LD 312 An Act To Support Workforce Development by Increasing Engineering Capacity Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLK A FECTEAU R	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill provides \$400,000 in fiscal year 2017-18 and \$400,000 in fiscal year 2018-19 to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund to strengthen the University of Maine System's engineering programs by seeding the development of competencies in areas such as industrial engineering, environmental engineering and biomedical engineering to meet the applied research and workforce needs of existing, growing and emerging industrial activity in southern Maine. The funds will support the acquisition of critical infrastructure at the University of Southern Maine, such as laboratory equipment and personnel that are necessary to strengthen the University of Southern Maine's engineering program, while promoting synergy with the University of Maine's engineering program. Ongoing equipment maintenance and personnel costs will be absorbed within the University of Southern Maine's budgeted resources.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-193)

This amendment, the minority report of the committee, changes the bill to a resolve and requires the University of Maine System to study the existing and emerging engineering workforce, applied research and technical assistance needs of southern Maine businesses and industry. The study must include recommendations to increase the engineering capacity specifically in southern Maine by strengthening academic and related nonacademic programs at the University of Southern Maine. The University of Maine System is required to report its findings and recommendations to its board of trustees by November 20, 2017 and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development by December 31, 2017. After reviewing the report, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out a bill to implement recommendations contained in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. The cost of the study will be absorbed using existing University of Maine System resources.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 322 An Act To Reintroduce Civics to High School Graduation Requirements ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ORDWAY L DIAMOND B	ONTP	

This bill requires secondary schools to provide instruction in civics as part of the requirements for graduation.

LD 333 An Act To Stabilize Maine's Educational Leadership and Vision ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEARNS P MILLETT R	ONTP	

This bill changes the selection process for the position of Commissioner of Education. Instead of being appointed by the Governor, under this bill, the commissioner is selected by the State Board of Education in consultation with the Governor. The candidate selected by the State Board of Education would be subject to legislative review and confirmation.

LD 334 An Act To Clarify the Uses of the Fund To Advance Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL B LANGLEY B		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to amend the provisions of the Fund to Advance Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education as enacted in Initiated Bill 2015, chapter 4 in order to clarify terminology and uses of the fund.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

LD 353 An Act To Reduce Absenteeism in Students from Kindergarten to Third Grade ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KORNFIELD T MILLETT R	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to direct the Department of Education to establish a program that provides incentives to parents or guardians of students in kindergarten to third grade who are prone to absenteeism from school to encourage the