

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

law to provide that the department may not deduct from a school administrative unit's state subsidy such payments.

LD 862 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Program To Install Video Cameras in School Buses ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY J THIBODEAU M	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Education to establish a pilot program with selected school administrative units to install video cameras in school buses and study the effectiveness of the cameras in assisting in the maintenance of order and safety on the school buses.

LD 863 An Act To Create a Standard Kindergarten Entry Assessment ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M MILLETT R	ONTP	

This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop a standard assessment for kindergarten entry for use by all school administrative units beginning January 1, 2019.

LD 864 An Act To Provide for a Statewide Contract for School Teachers Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M LANGLEY B	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill provides for statewide collective bargaining for teachers beginning January 1, 2021. The bill directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to develop a plan to implement statewide collective bargaining for teachers and requires that the plan be designed to permit school administrative units to maintain local control and direction of teacher employment; to include for all public school teachers a uniform compensation system that is based upon performance results that are competitive and fair throughout the State; and to maximize opportunities for certain economies of scale through the statewide negotiation of teachers' benefits, including, but not limited to, health insurance. The department is directed to submit its plan, together with proposed implementing legislation, for introduction to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-496)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment authorizes the State, upon the request of a school administrative unit, to act as the employer of employees of that school administrative unit, other than administrators, for the purpose of negotiating a contract for standard salary and standard benefits for these employees. Costs resulting from such bargaining agreements are the responsibility of the State and if funding is not approved, those cost items must be renegotiated. The authority for such negotiations is repealed 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

This amendment also requires regional school units to meet certain annual targets for the percentage share of total General Fund expenditures for direct instruction expenditures.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 865 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Determine the Effectiveness and Success of Charter Schools ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FULLER R	ONTP	

This resolve requires the Department of Education to conduct an evaluation and assessment of public charter schools to determine their effectiveness and success in carrying out state goals with respect to public charter schools and to establish recommended standards by which public charter schools are to be evaluated. This resolve also places a moratorium on executing any charter school contracts until the department submits its report on the assessment and evaluation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

LD 866 An Act To Provide Additional Funds to Schools That Offer Residential Options ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M MILLETT R	ONTP	

This bill requires that the State provide a minimum state subsidy of \$500 per residential student to all school administrative units, including public charter schools, as well as to magnet schools, that provide residential services.

LD 891 An Act To Support the Professional Development of Principals in Maine Schools Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY B POULIOT M	OTP-AM ONTP	S-237

This bill requires that the performance evaluation and professional growth system for new school administrative staff include a mentoring program that promotes excellence in school leadership, builds a supportive environment within school administrative units, increases the retention of school leaders and promotes the personal and professional well-being of school leaders.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-237)

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

LD 919 An Act To Establish the Summer Success Program Fund Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE T BREEN C	OTP-AM ONTP	H-113

This bill establishes the Summer Success Program Fund, a dedicated fund to be directed and administered by the Commissioner of Education and held by the Treasurer of State, to encourage the facilitation of high-quality summer