

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> 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

128<sup>TH</sup> 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 128<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 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 128<sup>th</sup> 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.

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considered an educational policy, which is not subject to negotiation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-442)**

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title to reflect the provisions of the amendment. The bill requires involuntary transfers of teachers or other municipal employees to be subject to collective bargaining. The amendment requires school boards to adopt and implement policies governing involuntary transfers of teachers. The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1104 An Act To Exempt School Resource Officers from Department of Education Background Check and Fingerprinting Requirements**

**PUBLIC 155**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAGGAN D CUSHING A	OTP-AM	H-283

This bill exempts from the school personnel background check and fingerprinting requirements law enforcement officers from a local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over a school's premises, commonly called school resource officers, who assist with school security, safety, emergency preparedness or emergency response or have been assigned other responsibilities concerning the school by the school or the local law enforcement agency.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-283)**

This amendment specifies that the exemption in the bill from school personnel background checks for law enforcement officers applies only to active duty law enforcement officers.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 155 exempts from the school personnel background check and fingerprinting requirements active duty law enforcement officers from a local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over a school's premises, commonly called school resource officers, who assist with school security, safety, emergency preparedness or emergency response or have been assigned other responsibilities concerning the school by the school or the local law enforcement agency.

**LD 1113 An Act To Improve Antihunger Programs in Maine Schools**

**PUBLIC 238**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S KORNFIELD T	OTP-AM ONTP	S-184

This bill requires the Department of Education to develop and make available to public schools an Internet-based application for eligible students for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program. The bill provides that a public school may make available the Internet-based application developed by the department for school meal applications. The bill also provides that if a public school implements an Internet-based application process, the public school is required to maintain paper applications for school meals.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-184)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment requires the Department of Education to make information available to public schools regarding Internet-based applications for eligible students for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program as in the bill, but removes the requirement that the

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department develop the application. The amendment specifies to whom a paper application must be made available if a public school implements an Internet-based application process.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 238 requires the Department of Education to make information available to public schools regarding Internet-based applications for eligible students for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program. It specifies that a paper application for school meals must be made available to any student, parent or legal guardian who requests one if a public school implements an Internet-based application process.

**LD 1129 An Act Regarding College Affordability**

**Died Between Houses**

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

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

This bill proposes to enact measures designed to increase the affordability of college.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-394)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and changes the title and replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment requires the Maine Community College System to identify and review programs that make college affordable and accessible in other states and to report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by February 1, 2018. It provides funding for two new scholarship programs within the Maine Community College System in fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19. It provides \$1,000,000 for a last dollar scholarship program to cover tuition and fees for selected students enrolled in a one-year occupational certificate program and \$2,000,000 for a last dollar scholarship program to cover tuition and fees for selected students who have successfully completed the first year of a two-year program and are enrolled for the second year. The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to implement the scholarship programs.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1130 An Act To Provide Traffic Safety Education in Schools**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAUGHTRY M KATZ R	OTP-AM ONTP	H-469 H-537 DAUGHTRY M

The purpose of this bill is to provide students in Maine with access to traffic safety education from an early age with the goal of teaching students safe practices and respect for all users of the road in order to reduce the unacceptable number of pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and make Maine's roadways safer and more enjoyable for all users.

This bill requires all school administrative units to provide at least one hour annually of age-appropriate traffic safety education to students in grades two to 12. The traffic safety education program must provide, at a minimum, instruction on the use of public and private ways by pedestrians, bicyclists and motor vehicle operators and on the laws and rules regarding that use. A school administrative unit may contract with a third party to provide the education.