

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
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

LD 1156

**An Act To Address Administrative Shortages in Maine Schools by
Amending the Law Regarding the Salaries of Retired Public School
Administrators Who Return to Service**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY B KORNFIELD T	ONTP	

This bill amends provisions regarding compensation and length of service of retired public school administrators who return to service by requiring for the first year of the return to service 100% of the compensation established for the position to be filled and for the subsequent four years annually reducing the compensation incrementally until compensation is 75% of the compensation established for the position to be filled. Current law sets the compensation at 75% of the compensation established for the position filled.

LD 1158

**An Act To Remove the Limit on the Number of Public Charter Schools
That May Be Approved**

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill repeals the provision of law that requires the Maine Charter School Commission to limit the number of schools approved for the public charter school program.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-217)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, replaces the bill and changes the title. The bill removes the limit on the number of public charter schools that may be approved. Under current law there is a 10-year transition period during which the Maine Charter School Commission may approve only 10 public charter schools. Once the cap is reached, the Commissioner of Education may not accept further registrations from the commission until the provision is repealed on July 1, 2022.

The amendment provides that, once the 10-school limit is reached, the commission may approve no more than one additional charter school each school year through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. This change does not affect the authority under current law for local school boards and collaboratives of local school boards to approve charters until the end of the 10-year transition period.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1160

**Resolve, To Require a Study of Wages and Working Conditions for
Child Development Educators and Staff**

ONTP

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

This resolve requires the Child Development Services System to examine the working conditions and wages paid to individuals who provide early intervention or special education services in school administrative units and compare those working conditions and wages to those of persons in similar positions in the private sector and in elementary