

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

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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

additional state funding for special education costs for special education students whose costs for the special education programs and services required by federal and state law exceed \$100,000 in a given fiscal year.

LD 1396

An Act To Remove Certain Restrictions Imposed on Retired State Employees Who Return to Work as Educators

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEARNS P	OTP-AM OTP-AM ONTP	H-522

This bill amends the provisions of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System regarding compensation and service retirement benefits for retired state employees and retired teachers who return to service as classroom-based employees or school administrators in the following ways.

1. It allows a retired state employee or retired teacher to be restored to service as a classroom-based employee or school administrator beyond the current five-year limit.
2. It removes the cap of 75% of compensation established for the position that the state employee or retired teacher is filling.
3. It allows a retired state employee or retired teacher who returns to service as a classroom-based employee or school administrator to receive full retirement, health, dental and life insurance benefits as offered for the position to be filled and suspends the provisions of retiree health, dental and life insurance benefits for retired state employees or retired teachers during the period of reemployment.
4. It retains the current provisions that a retired state employee or retired teacher who returns to service is not a member and therefore may not accrue additional creditable service or change the retired state employee's or retired teacher's earnable compensation for benefit calculation purposes.
5. It requires full employee and employer contributions to the retirement system for the unfunded liability and the state group health plan for retiree health care based upon the retired state employee's or retired teacher's compensation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-522)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that a retired state employee or retired teacher who returns to service as a classroom-based employee or school administrator is entitled to the same normal retirement cost contributions that the employer is required to provide to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System that would be required for the position if the position were filled by an employee who is not a retired state employee or retired teacher.

This amendment was not adopted.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-523)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that a retired state employee or retired teacher who returns to service as a classroom-based employee or school administrator is entitled to the same normal retirement cost contributions that the employer and the employee are required to provide to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System that would be required for the position if the position were filled by an employee who is not a retired state employee or retired teacher.

This amendment was not adopted.