

# 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.

## *Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

Public Law 2017, chapter 235 amends the laws governing the credentialing process for teachers, educational specialists and administrators, and replaces references to the certification, authorization and approval of teachers and educational personnel with references to credentialing teachers and educational personnel. The law also amends the process for the certification of educational technicians.

**LD 1576     An Act To Enable Earlier Introduction of Career and Technical  
Education in Maine Schools**

**PUBLIC 171**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY B SAMPSON H	OTP	

This bill amends the career and technical education laws to enable career and technical education programs to serve students in grades six to eight.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 171 amends the career and technical education laws to enable career and technical education programs to serve students in grades six to eight.

**LD 1578     An Act Regarding Educational Standards for Maine Students**

**Accepted Majority  
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill accomplishes the following with regard to the statewide content standards, statewide assessment programs and the comparison of recent and proposed content standards and statewide assessment programs.

With regard to content standards, the bill:

1. Prohibits the Department of Education from adopting and implementing the common core state standards, or any standards developed by any similar initiative process or program, as the State's content standards for English language arts and mathematics and voids any prior actions taken to adopt or implement the common core state standards;
2. Requires the Department of Education, within 90 days after the bill's effective date, to replace the content standards in English language arts and mathematics with new standards that are consistent with the standards adopted by Massachusetts prior to that state's adoption of the common core state standards so that Maine's standards are, as much as possible, identical to those adopted by Massachusetts, except when a Maine context requires otherwise;
3. Specifies that the content standards that are based on the Massachusetts standards are effective for the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years only;
4. Requires the Department of Education, by June 30, 2019, to adopt new content standards for kindergarten and for each of grades one to 12 in English language arts and mathematics that are distinct and independent from the standards previously adopted by the Department of Education so that they are in place beginning with the 2021-2022 school year;

## *Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs*

5. States that a school administrative unit is not required to use all or any part of the content standards adopted by the Department of Education;
6. Prohibits the Commissioner of Education from adopting any model curricula that are aligned with the content standards;
7. Prohibits the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and any other state official, board or agency from adopting or revising any content standards in English language arts or mathematics until the new or revised standards are approved in accordance with the bill; and
8. Establishes the English language arts academic review committee and the mathematics academic review committee to review and approve statewide content standards developed by the department.

With regard to assessments, the bill:

1. For the 2017-2018 school year, requires the Department of Education to furnish and school administrative units and schools to administer the assessments for elementary and secondary schools that were administered during the 2013-2014 school year, including the New England Common Assessment Program for grades three to eight and the Maine High School Assessment testing program for grade 11 that includes the SATs in reading, mathematics and writing;
2. Requires the Department of Education to adopt or develop, not later than 90 days after the effective date of the bill, assessments for elementary and secondary schools in English language arts and mathematics that are aligned with the State's version of Massachusetts content standards for use only during the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years; and
3. Requires the Department of Education to adopt or develop by June 30, 2021, assessments for elementary and secondary schools in English language arts and mathematics that are aligned with the new content standards for use during the 2021-2022 school year and each school year thereafter.

With regard to the comparison of standards and assessments, the bill:

1. Requires the Department of Education to compare and publish on its website a comparison of the new content standards in English language arts and mathematics that will be effective in the 2021-2022 school year with Maine's state standards and the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements and to submit a report to the Legislature and Governor outlining the results of the comparison of the standards; and
2. Requires the English language arts academic review committee and the mathematics academic standards review committee to compare the content standards in English language arts and mathematics with the content standards that were previously adopted by the Department of Education pursuant to Public Law 2009, chapter 313, section 19 and Public Law 2009, chapter 647, section 1.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-457)**

This amendment, which is the minority report, incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.