

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

August 2019

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 129th 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 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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

The purpose of this bill is to provide students in Maine with 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 2 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 traffic safety education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-83)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, modifies the requirements in the bill for age-appropriate traffic safety education in school administrative units. The amendment provides that the traffic safety education must be provided annually to at least four different grade levels from kindergarten to grade eight instead of annually in grades 2 to 12. The amendment also strikes the requirement that the education be at least one hour in length.

This amendment also provides funding for 90% of the cost to school administrative units to implement the traffic safety education curriculum. The amendment also specifies that outside funding may be accepted by the Department of Education and expended for the purpose of traffic safety education annually.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 484 Resolve, To Establish a Maine State High School Diploma ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the State Board of Education, to develop a Maine state high school diploma and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on its findings and recommendations no later than January 15, 2020.

LD 502 An Act To Establish the Summer Success Pilot Program Fund CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE T BREEN C	OTP-AM ONTP	H-200

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 success programs in school administrative units throughout the State. The bill accomplishes the following.

1. It provides that money paid into the fund may include General Fund appropriations, as well as grants, gifts and other money from any unit of federal, state or local government or from any person, firm, partnership or corporation for deposit to the fund, money received from a social impact bond and interest, dividends and other pecuniary gains. It requires that school administrative units ensure that grants provided from the fund for expanding access to summer success programs supplement and not supplant federal funding.

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2. It requires the commissioner to administer the fund within the Department of Education and to establish standards and approval for the allocation and use of fund money for summer success programs offered at elementary and secondary schools in the State. It also allows the commissioner to include the following in the standards:

- A. Guidelines similar to the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers program to close the achievement gap between high-performing and low-performing students;
- B. Effective models of summer success programs that involve networking and partnerships with community-based organizations that provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development; and
- C. Implementation of the formative and summative assessment methods to measure student achievement in order to monitor the progress of students participating in summer success programs.

3. It provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2020-21, the department is required to provide grant funding, through a grant application process, to cover 90% of the costs of summer success programs in school administrative units with greater than 50% student participation in the federal free and reduced-price lunch program.

4. It adds the fund to the enhancing student performance and opportunity provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

5. It requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 15, 2019 that outlines the proposed rules to implement the fund by the 2020-2021 school year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-200)

This amendment strikes and replaces the title and the bill. The amendment establishes the Summer Success Pilot Program and corresponding fund to encourage the facilitation of high-quality summer success pilot programs in school administrative units throughout the State and does the following:

1. It provides that the fund is established as a General Fund carrying account within the Department of Education to be directed and administered by the Commissioner of Education and held by the Treasurer of State and that only General Fund appropriations may be paid into the fund;

2. It requires the Commissioner of Education to establish standards and approval for the allocation and use of fund money for summer success pilot programs offered at elementary and secondary schools in the State. It also allows the commissioner to include the following in the standards:

- A. Guidelines similar to those of the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers program to close the achievement gap between high-performing and low-performing students;
- B. Effective models of summer success programs that involve networking and partnerships with community-based organizations that provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development; and
- C. Implementation of the formative and summative assessment methods to measure student achievement in order to monitor the progress of students participating in summer success pilot programs;

3. It provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2020-21, the department is required to provide grant funding from the fund, through a grant application process, to cover 90% of the costs of summer success pilot programs and that the department must prioritize distribution of funding to school administrative units with greater than 50% student participation in the federal free and reduced-price lunch program;

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4. It adds the fund to the enhancing student performance and opportunity provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; and

5. It requires the Commissioner of Education to annually report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs on the number of school administrative units administering summer success pilot programs, the nature of the summer success pilot programs receiving money from the fund, the amount of money distributed and the number of children participating in a summer success pilot program. The report must also include a recommendation on whether the pilot program should continue as a pilot program, be modified or become a permanent program.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 503 An Act To Provide Additional Funding for the Maine Bicentennial Commission Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE T DIAMOND B		

This bill provides funding for the Maine Bicentennial Commission, which was enacted in Resolve 2017, chapter 25. The bill provides one-time funds to the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council in fiscal year 2019-20 for the expenses associated with the planning of the State of Maine bicentennial celebration.

LD 504 An Act To Enhance the Development of Innovative Career and Technical Education Programs ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HIGGINS N DAVIS P	ONTP	

This bill changes the procedure for authorizing career and technical education satellite programs. Current law requires any affiliated unit that wishes to operate a career and technical education satellite program to submit a written request to operate a satellite program to the governing body of the center or region with which the unit is affiliated. The governing body of the center or region considers the request and then forwards its recommendation to the Commissioner of Education. This bill provides that the written request be submitted directly to the Commissioner of Education for approval.

LD 512 Resolve, To Authorize the Legislature To Contract for an Independent Review To Evaluate and Plan for the Implementation of Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARNSWORTH D MOORE M	OTP-AM	H-561

This resolve establishes the Task Force To Study and Plan for the Implementation of Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services to examine the national trends and relevant models of governing and delivering early