

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE  
129<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 2019

**STAFF:**

HILLARY RISLER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
KAREN S. NADEAU, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. REBECCA J. MILLETT, CHAIR  
SEN. EVERETT BROWNIE CARSON  
SEN. MATTHEW POULIOT

REP. VICTORIA P. KORNFIELD, CHAIR  
REP. MICHAEL F. BRENNAN  
REP. RICHARD R. FARNSWORTH  
REP. DAVID HAROLD MCCREA  
REP. JANICE S. DODGE  
REP. HENRY L. INGWERSEN  
REP. HEIDI H. SAMPSON  
REP. GARY A. DRINKWATER  
REP. JUSTIN FECTEAU  
REP. SHELLEY RUDNICKI

# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> 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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> 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*

This bill establishes the School Revolving Maintenance Fund as a nonlapsing fund administered by the Department of Education to make loans to school administrative units for minor school infrastructure maintenance and construction projects. The bill requires the Department of Education to adopt major substantive rules and transfers \$30,000,000 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the School Revolving Maintenance Fund.

**LD 576**      **Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Study and Develop an Online Learning Platform for Students and Educators**      **RESOLVE 25**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>      | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BRENNAN M<br>MILLETT R | OTP-AM                  | H-125                     |

This resolve directs the Department of Education to develop and implement an online platform to facilitate the provision of online, virtual instruction by state-certified teachers to students in every public school in the State and the provision of a variety of high-quality professional development opportunities to educators across the State. It directs the department to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2020 on the progress toward and obstacles to the development and implementation of the online platform. The joint standing committee is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to address any obstacles to the development and implementation of the online platform and any other concerns.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-125)**

This amendment removes the requirement in the resolve that the Department of Education implement an online platform and instead requires the department to study and develop an online platform. The amendment also requires the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs required by the resolve to include the expected costs and a strategy for implementation of the online platform.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 25 directs the Department of Education to establish a working group to study and develop an online platform to facilitate the provision of online, virtual instruction by state-certified teachers to students in every public school in the State and the provision of a variety of high-quality professional development opportunities to educators across the State. The Department of Education is required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2020 on the progress toward and obstacles to the development, expected costs and a strategy for implementation of the online platform. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to address any obstacles to the development and implementation of the online platform and any other concerns.

**LD 577**      **An Act To Increase Access to Nutritious Foods in Schools by Implementing an After-school Food Program for At-risk Students**      **PUBLIC 428**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>      | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BRENNAN M<br>MILLETT R | OTP-AM<br>ONTP          | H-226                     |

This bill provides for the participation in the federal child and adult care food program to serve at-risk students who attend after-school programming by school administrative units that choose to operate the program and have at least one public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-226)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes the emergency preamble and the emergency