

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
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 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

existing exemption as long as a licensed physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant provides a statement that the physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant has provided information on the risks and benefits associated with the choice to immunize.

Public Law 2019, chapter 154 requires the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention within the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a report, by January 1st of each odd-numbered year, to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and education matters concerning any new developments in the evaluation of vaccine safety and effectiveness. The joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and education matters are each authorized to submit a bill during the legislative session in which the report was submitted.

LD 843	An Act To Clarify Parental Consent Regarding the Release of Student Information	Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RYKERSON D		

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to clarify the laws governing parental consent regarding the release of student information.

LD 852	Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Study the Coordination of Services and Expansion of Educational Programs for Young Adults with Disabilities	Died On Adjournment
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PEBORTH S LUCHINI L	OTP-AM	H-126

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to establish a task force to study the benefits, assessments and expansion of continuing education programs for young adults with disabilities after high school. The members of the task force would include a variety of experts, providers and parents, and the task force would be charged with developing recommendations to enhance the coordination of programs and recommend targeted reforms to ensure the most efficient and effective provision of services. This bill would also implement targeted reforms that have been recommended by existing or previous task forces.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-126)

This amendment establishes the Task Force To Study the Coordination of Services and Expansion of Educational Programs for Young Adults with Disabilities. The membership of the task force consists of Legislators who serve on the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, health and human services matters and labor and housing matters, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Commissioner of Labor and members of organizations or associations knowledgeable about services for young adults with disabilities after high school. The Commissioner of Education convenes the task force, which must hold a minimum of four meetings and submit a report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, health and human services matters and labor and housing matters on recommendations and targeted reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of services provided by different agencies and continuing educational opportunities for young adults with disabilities after high school.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-350)

This amendment increases the number of Senators appointed to serve on the task force from one Senator to two Senators, changes the method of appointing the task force chairs and changes the reporting date.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 858 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Study and Make
Recommendations Relating to School Safety and Security**

RESOLVE 26

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COREY P POULIOT M	OTP-AM	H-128

This resolve directs the Department of Education to study and make recommendations for the establishment of a Maine School Safety Center based on a report created by Safe Havens International, the top recommendation of which was the establishment of such a center. The department is directed to issue a report, including its recommendations for the establishment of a center and any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by October 15, 2019. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-128)

This amendment clarifies that the Department of Education is required to study and make recommendations relating to school safety and security, including, but not limited to, planning to mitigate the potential risks associated with opening school facilities to the public when a school is used as a polling place and the establishment of a Maine School Safety Center. The amendment requires the department to submit a preliminary report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 15, 2019 and a final report by December 15, 2020. The amendment authorizes the joint standing committee to submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature instead of the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature as proposed in the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 26 requires the Department of Education to study and make recommendations relating to school safety and security, including, but not limited to, planning to mitigate the potential risks associated with opening school facilities to the public when a school is used as a polling place and the establishment of a Maine School Safety Center. The law requires the department to submit a preliminary report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 15, 2019 and a final report by December 15, 2020. The law authorizes the joint standing committee to submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

**LD 860 An Act To Establish the Maine Community College System No-cost
Tuition Program**

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRENNAN M LIBBY N		

This bill establishes the Maine Community College System No-cost Tuition Program. Under the program, Maine residents who are determined to be eligible students and who are enrolled in an eligible course of study at a college within the Maine Community College System are eligible for a grant to cover the cost of tuition and mandatory fees, less any federal financial aid or other financial assistance that the student receives that is not required to be repaid. The Maine Community College System must include in its biennial budget for presentation to the Governor and the