

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

purpose of ongoing professional growth for educators.

This amendment also removes the provisions of the bill on teacher preparation programs and salary supplements for approved support and mentoring systems for teacher certification and the appropriations for the Educators for Maine Program under the Finance Authority of Maine.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-60)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee and replaces the bill, provides for statewide collective bargaining for teachers beginning January 1, 2021. The amendment directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to develop a plan to implement statewide collective bargaining for teachers and requires that the plan be designed to permit school administrative units to maintain local control and direction of teacher employment; to include for all public school teachers a uniform compensation system that is competitive and fair throughout the State; and to maximize opportunities for certain economies of scale through the statewide negotiation of teachers' benefits, including, but not limited to, health insurance. The department is directed to submit its plan, together with proposed implementing legislation, for introduction to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

This amendment was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-332)

This amendment removes the sections of the bill relating to establishing a minimum salary of \$40,000 for certified teachers starting after June 30, 2020.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 518 provides that a school administrative unit may not employ a conditionally certified teacher or educational specialist unless it has a locally designed support and mentoring system and provides that for at least the first two years of employment of a conditionally certified teacher, ensure that the conditionally certified teacher or education specialist receives high-quality professional development and provide a program of intensive supervision for the conditionally certified teacher.

Public Law 2019, chapter 518 also provides that the purpose of the peer support and mentoring system is to provide strong support services and mentoring programs that are sustained, intensive and classroom-focused in order to have positive and lasting effect on classroom instruction and develop good teaching and classroom management, provide assistance to and review for all individuals who are candidates for a higher level certificate, and assist all teachers in becoming better teachers. It also provides that the peer mentoring and support system must include opportunities for all educators to share, learn, and continually improve practices as educators in collaboration with peers and must be formative in nature and be for the sole purpose of ongoing professional growth for educators.

Public Law 2019, chapter 518 also requires the Governor to appoint members for all vacant positions on the Professional Standards Board no later than November 1, 2019, and that the Professional Standards Board must convene a meeting no later than December 1, 2019.

L.D. 1001, enacted as Public Law 2019, chapter 343, includes provisions for increasing the minimum teacher salary to \$40,000 by the school year starting after June 30, 2022.

LD 930

An Act To Give Maine Schools Additional Options To Make Up Missed School Days

PUBLIC 105

Sponsor(s)

PIERCE T
BREEN C

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

H-127

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill includes in the statutes Department of Education rules governing how school administrative units may make up school days missed due to weather or emergency closures, including rescheduling or shortening scheduled vacation periods, postponing the scheduled closing date of school and conducting classes during the weekend. It also allows school administrative units to make up school days by providing students with packets of homework the completion of which counts as completion of a regular day of school and to develop ways to make up school days not included in law as long as they are incorporated into a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-127)

This amendment strikes the provisions in the bill that propose to add to the statutes provisions in Department of Education rules governing how school administrative units may make up school days missed due to weather or emergency closures, including rescheduling or shortening scheduled vacation periods, postponing the scheduled closing date of school and conducting classes during the weekend. The amendment also strikes the provision allowing school administrative units to make up school days by providing students with packets of homework the completion of which counts as completion of a regular day of school. The amendment leaves in place the provision allowing school administrative units to develop other ways to make up school days missed due to weather or emergency closures not included in law as long as they are incorporated into a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 105 allows school administrative units to develop other ways to make up school days missed due to weather or emergency closures not included in law as long as they are incorporated into a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education.

LD 944 An Act To Ban Native American Mascots in All Public Schools

PUBLIC 123

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B VITELLI E	OTP-AM ONTP	H-122

This bill prohibits a public school from having or adopting a name, symbol or image that depicts or refers to a Native American tribe, individual, custom or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead or team name of the school.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-122)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, adds the University of Maine System and any college within the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and any college within the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy to the prohibition in the bill on a school having or adopting a name, symbol or image that depicts or refers to a Native American tribe, individual, custom or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead or team name of the school.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 123 prohibits public schools, the University of Maine System and any college within the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and any college within the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy from having or adopting a name, symbol or image that depicts or refers to a Native American tribe, individual, custom or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead or team name of the school.