

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

performance indicators of the system of learning results. This amendment directs the Department of Education to convene two volunteer advisory groups to collect information and prepare and make available materials for teaching African-American history and culture and the history of genocide in accordance with this legislation. This amendment also provides that the addition of African-American history and the history of genocide to the school curriculum takes effect July 1, 2020 so as to be in effect for the 2020-2021 school year.

This amendment was not adopted.

House Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-520)

This amendment requires that African-American history and culture be taught in schools, aligned with the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements and included in the review of content standards and performance indicators of the system of learning results. This amendment directs the Department of Education to convene two volunteer advisory groups to collect information and prepare and make available materials for teaching African-American history and culture and the history of genocide in accordance with this legislation. This amendment also provides that the addition of African-American history and the history of genocide to the school curriculum takes effect July 1, 2020 so as to be in effect for the 2020-2021 school year.

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 1064 An Act To Address Maine's Firefighter Shortage by Offering Firefighter Training for Credit in High School Career and Technical Education Programs ONTP

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

This bill allows career and technical education centers and regions to offer firefighter training as an approved program and requires the program to use National Fire Protection Association standards for firefighter professional qualifications as the industry standard for the firefighter training.

LD 1149 An Act To Strengthen the Maine State Library PUBLIC 521

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C CLAXTON N	OTP-AM ONTP	H-173 S-365 BREEN C

This bill provides funds to support resource sharing services for Maine's libraries, including van delivery and interlibrary lending, the Digital Maine Library and the Maine statewide catalog known as MaineCat, and to conduct an analysis of statewide library services and resource sharing.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-173)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-365)

Like the bill, this amendment is designed to strengthen libraries. This amendment deappropriates funding for a position provided by the General Fund, and instead allocates funds for another position funded 75% General Fund and 25% Federal Expenditures Fund.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 521 provides funds to support resource sharing services for Maine's libraries, including van delivery and interlibrary lending, the Digital Maine Library and the Maine statewide catalog known as MaineCat, and to conduct an analysis of statewide library services and resource sharing.

LD 1152 An Act To Make the Maine Educational Assessment Optional for Kindergarten to Grade 8 ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HANDY J	ONTP	

This bill makes the currently mandatory state assessment program for schools optional for kindergarten to grade eight.

**LD 1168 Resolve, To Improve Maine's Response to Childhood Trauma RESOLVE 63
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HEAD F TIMBERLAKE J	OTP-AM	H-323

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to convene a task force, inviting the participation of experts and interested parties, to develop guidance for kindergarten to grade 12 administrators on appropriate training and responses to childhood trauma and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 4, 2019. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-323)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause and directs the task force convened by the Commissioner of Education, in developing guidance for kindergarten to grade 12 administrators on appropriate training and responses to childhood trauma, to consult with any other task force or work group convened by the Department of Education whose work may inform the work of this task force. The amendment also removes the requirement that the training and social and emotional learning curriculum developed by the task force be mandated.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 63 directs the Commissioner of Education to convene a task force, inviting the participation of experts and interested parties and in consultation with any other task force or work group convened by the Department of Education whose work may inform the work of this task force, to develop guidance for kindergarten to grade 12 administrators on appropriate training and responses to childhood trauma and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 4, 2019. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Resolve 2019, chapter 63 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 10, 2019.