

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

June 2024

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STATE OF MAINE

131ST LEGISLATURE
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature's webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature is Friday, August 9, 2024. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

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LD 957 An Act Requiring Water Bottle Filling Stations in New and Renovated Public Schools

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 492 provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2024-25, a newly constructed public school or an existing public school undergoing substantial renovations must be equipped with a water bottle filling station. It also provides that a public school must allow a student to possess a refillable water bottle that meets certain requirements.

Public Law 2023, chapter 492 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2023 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2023, chapter 492 became law without the Governor's signature on January 7, 2024.

LD 1263 An Act to Require Certain School Identification Cards to Include the Telephone Number of a Suicide and Crisis Hotline

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 561 requires a school administrative unit that issues identification cards to secondary students to ensure that those identification cards contain the 988 telephone number for the national suicide and crisis hotline. It also requires a public postsecondary educational institution that issues identification cards to ensure that those identification cards contain the 988 telephone number, as well as requiring the school administrative unit and the public postsecondary institution to display the 988 telephone number in at least one other student-facing location.

LD 1284 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education to Review the Placement of Personal Finance in the System of Learning Results

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 135 requires the Commissioner of Education, in the commissioner's next regular review of the content standards and performance indicators, to consider the inclusion of personal finance in content areas other than social studies, as appropriate.

LD 1642 An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 537 updates the term "Maine Native American studies" with "Wabanaki studies" in the laws regarding elementary and secondary education requirements and provides that, in addition to being a required component in Maine studies, Wabanaki studies may be taught as a

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component in other content areas, as appropriate. Public Law 2023, chapter 537 also directs the Commissioner of Education to consider the inclusion of Wabanaki studies in content areas other than social studies in the system of learning results when conducting the commissioner's next regular review of the content standards and performance indicators.

LD 1898 An Act to Ensure That a Teacher Who Participates in the Prevention of Dangerous Behavior Is Protected Under a Collective Bargaining Agreement

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 493 provides that a dispute involving a public school employee covered by a collective bargaining agreement arising out of an incident of dangerous behavior by a student is subject to the dispute resolution process of the collective bargaining agreement.

Public Law 2023, chapter 493 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2023 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2023, chapter 493 became law without the Governor's signature on January 7, 2024.

LD 2089 An Act Regarding Drug Awareness Instruction in Secondary Schools

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 601 clarifies that health education in a secondary school must include reference to the effects of dangerous drugs, such as fentanyl, in addition to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics. It also allows a secondary school to supplement instruction on youth substance use and substance use disorder by observing a drug awareness week during the month of October each year.

LD 2131 An Act to Support Extended Learning Opportunities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 566 amends the law that governs individual student instruction in elementary and secondary schools to add extending learning opportunities to the authorized pathways of learning.