

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

August 2025

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

committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters no later than January 1, 2029.

LD 1327 Resolve, Directing the University of Maine System to Study Student Teacher Compensation

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 88 directs the University of Maine System to convene a stakeholder group to study the development of a compensation structure for student teaching in the State. The University of Maine System is required to submit a report on the findings of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by November 6, 2025.

LD 1332 An Act to Establish the Community Schools Success Fund to Ensure the Implementation and Success of Community Schools Programs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 410 establishes the Community Schools Success Fund, a nonlapsing fund within the Department of Education, to provide grants to community schools, local education providers, school administrative units that have begun developing community school plans and nonprofit organizations to support community school programming.

LD 1404 Resolve, to Create a Working Group on the Status of School Libraries and on Public Libraries in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 117 directs the State Librarian to convene a working group on the status of school libraries and public libraries in the State. The working group is required to study:

1. Library services for specific segments of the Maine population;
2. The role that libraries play in emergency preparedness; cultural diversity and inclusion; public health and safety; community identity and resiliency; and economic development; and
3. Access to public services and resources; and the current overall status of school and public libraries in the State, including information on partnerships, resources, facilities, technology and staffing.

The State Librarian is required to submit a report of the working group's findings and recommendations by November 1, 2027 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having

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jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, which is authorized to report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

LD 1433 Resolve, to Establish a Working Waterfront Infrastructure Engineer Corps Pilot Program and to Conduct a Feasibility Study of a Higher Education Service Corps Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 118 establishes the Working Waterfront Infrastructure Engineer Corps Pilot Program. The Maine Sea Grant at the University of Maine is directed to oversee the program and consult with Volunteer Maine and the Maine College of Engineering and Computing at the University of Maine. Program participants may be graduate or undergraduate students. Program participants are required to conduct vulnerability assessments and other analyses of the State's working waterfronts. Program participants are required to engage with municipalities and be exposed to careers in municipal government. The law requires the Maine Sea Grant to report on the program's status to the Legislature. The law also directs the Maine Commission for Community Service to study the feasibility of developing a higher education service corps program. The feasibility study is due to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by December 3, 2025. Each joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the contents of the report.

LD 1543 An Act to Establish the Maine Green Schools Network

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 422 establishes the Maine Green Schools Network within the Department of Education to support environmental education and initiatives in public schools. The department must administer the network and, subject to the availability of funds, invite several individuals and entities to participate in the network, including the director of green schools within the department; a climate education specialist within the department; an educator; a representative from climate education nonprofit organizations; a representative from a career and technical school; a representative from the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future; and a representative from the Department of Environmental Protection. Public Law 2025, chapter 422 requires the network to do the following: support professional development; support school projects that incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and best practices for waste management and recycling, energy conservation, water conservation, schoolyard habitat, outdoor classrooms, transportation or health; increase the number of educators in the State who provide training for green schools; create a statewide community of practice among educators and administrators for the purpose of sharing curricula; and develop common resources, trainings and metrics to support educators. The department is authorized to develop a grant program to be administered through the network in furtherance of fulfilling the network's duties. The network is required to report back to the Legislature by November 4, 2026 with findings and recommendations related to the network's ability to achieve its goals.