

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

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

July 2013

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Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 6 An Act Regarding the Authority of a School Board To Elect a School Superintendent

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CASAVANT DUTREMBLE	OTP-AM ONTP	H-31

This bill prohibits school boards from requiring that a superintendent reside in a municipality that is included within the school administrative unit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-31)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, replaces the bill and provides that a school board may elect a superintendent without regard to whether the superintendent resides in a municipality that is included within the school administrative unit. It also removes the emergency preamble and clause from the bill.

LD 18 An Act To Fund Public Education for Kindergarten to Grade 12 at 55%

ONTP

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

This bill provides additional funding totaling \$83,718,198 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$99,525,393 in fiscal year 2014-15 necessary for the State to achieve the statutory commitment to fund 55% of the total cost of kindergarten to grade 12 public education as calculated by the essential programs and services funding model.

LD 25 An Act To Exclude Certain State-funded Costs from the State Share of the Total Cost of Funding Public Education

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON A GOODALL	OTP-AM OTP-AM	

This bill provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2013-14, the state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance may not be included in the calculation of the state share percentage of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-505)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, adds an emergency preamble and clause to the bill, but retains the provision in the bill that the state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance may not be included in the calculation of the state share percentage of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. The amendment provides that the state share percentage target for fiscal year 2013-14 and succeeding years is 55%. This amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "B" (H-506)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, adds an emergency preamble and clause to the bill and removes the provision in the bill that would have provided that the state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance may not be included in the calculation of the state share percentage of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. The amendment clarifies that the state contributions to teacher retirement reflect the state contributions to the employer retirement costs that are applicable to the normal cost of teacher retirement. The amendment also provides that the state share percentage target for fiscal year 2013-14 and succeeding years is 55%. This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 34 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee and the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability Regarding Child Development Services PUBLIC 338

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-380 S-238 MILLETT

This bill implements recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee stemming from the report on child development services issued by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability in July 2012. The purpose of this bill is to require improved reporting to the Legislature on key financial and performance aspects of the Child Development Services System and the programs it administers, in order to enhance transparency, accountability and legislative oversight. The system is an entity established in statute with responsibility for administering federal programs for eligible children from birth to under 6 years of age under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The system and its programs receive some federal funding but are primarily supported by the General Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-380)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It provides that the annual report on the performance of the Child Development Services System within the Department of Education submitted to the Legislature by the director of early childhood special education must also be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.
2. It provides that the following data for eligible children who received services must be included in the annual report on the performance of the Child Development Services System submitted to the Legislature:
 - A. The number of children who received direct services in the prior year who were born in Maine and the number of children who received direct services in the prior year who were born in Maine and who were delivered at home;
 - B. The total number of children who were referred in the prior year for support outside of the Child Development Services System and the number of children who received direct services in the prior year who were referred for support outside of the Child Development Services System; and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

C. The number of children who received direct services in the prior year who received all of the services in their individualized family service plan or individualized education program and the number of children who received direct services in the prior year who received less than 90% of the services in their individualized family service plan or individualized education program.

3. It provides that the statistics and analysis on the performance of the Child Development Services System submitted to the Legislature must also include the average age, both in aggregate and by primary disability type, at which children who were born in Maine began receiving services from the Child Development Services System and the average age, both in aggregate and by primary disability type, at which children who were born in Maine and who were delivered at home began receiving services from the Child Development Services System.

4. It provides that the annual report on the performance of the Child Development Services System submitted to the Legislature must also include a report by each regional site that demonstrates the trends of the Child Development Services System employee costs and the results of efforts undertaken by the Child Development Services System to coordinate with other entities and maximize the use of a broad base of community resources, including private providers and public schools, midwives, resources from other agencies and other resources serving families and children from birth to under 6 years of age.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-238)

This amendment delays until January 1, 2015 when certain information must be included in the report on the performance of the Child Development Services System submitted to the Legislature. The amendment also removes the appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 338 implements recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee stemming from the report on child development services issued by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability in July 2012. The law requires improved reporting to the Legislature on key financial and performance aspects of the Child Development Services System and the programs it administers, in order to enhance transparency, accountability and legislative oversight. The law provides that the director of early childhood special education must provide an annual report on the performance of the Child Development Services System to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, appropriations and financial affairs, and health and human services matters.

LD 56 An Act To Ensure Equity in School Costs Borne by Municipalities ONTP
within Consolidated School Units

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the funding distribution method required under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to ensure parity and taxpayer equity among towns that are members of consolidated school units.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 61 An Act To Amend Standards for Participation in Certain Public School Services by Students Who Are Homeschooled PUBLIC 400

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ESPLING BURNS	OTP-AM	H-30

This bill provides that a student receiving homeschool instruction is eligible for a state tuition subsidy for certain postsecondary courses as long as the criteria for participation are met. The bill also provides that a student receiving homeschool instruction is eligible for special education services in the same manner that students enrolled in a private school are eligible for these services.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-30)

This amendment strikes the mandate preamble and the provision in the bill that requires that a school administrative unit provide the same special education services to a student receiving home instruction as are provided to a student enrolled in private school.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 400 provides that a student receiving homeschool instruction is eligible for a state tuition subsidy for certain postsecondary courses as long as the criteria for participation are met.

LD 91 An Act To Raise the School Construction Bond Cap PUBLIC 44

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON A GOODALL	OTP-AM	H-5

This bill increases the major capital maximum debt service limit for school construction projects for fiscal years 2013-14 and 2014-15 to \$126,000,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-5)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 44 increases the major capital maximum debt service limit for school construction projects for fiscal years 2013-14 and 2014-15 to \$126,000,000.

LD 92 An Act Relating to Private School Student Participation in Public School Cocurricular, Interscholastic and Extracurricular Activities PUBLIC 428

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAKER MASON G	OTP-AM	H-53 S-332 HILL

This bill changes the standards for making public school resources and services available to students enrolled in certain equivalent instruction programs by eliminating the requirement that resources and services be made available to students in a private school recognized by the Department of Education as providing equivalent

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

instruction and by limiting the ability of the public school principal or the principal's designee to deny participation to situations where the school cannot reasonably accommodate the student's participation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-53)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment limits public school resources and services available to students enrolled in private schools to only those students enrolled in certain private schools recognized by the Department of Education as providing equivalent instruction.

The amendment provides that the principal of a public school may deny the request of a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program to participate in a cocurricular, extracurricular or interscholastic activity only if the school does not have the capacity to provide the student with the opportunity to participate in the activity. If approval for participation is withheld by the principal, the principal must provide a written explanation to the student or the student's parent or guardian stating the reason or reasons for the decision.

The amendment provides that a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program is not eligible to participate in a cocurricular, interscholastic or extracurricular activity at a public school if the private school the student attends already provides that same activity.

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

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 428 limits public school resources and services available to students enrolled in private schools to only those students enrolled in certain private schools recognized by the Department of Education as providing equivalent instruction. The law provides that the principal of a public school may deny the request of a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program to participate in a cocurricular, extracurricular or interscholastic activity only if the school does not have the capacity to provide the student with the opportunity to participate in the activity. If approval for participation is withheld by the principal, the principal must provide a written explanation to the student or the student's parent or guardian stating the reason or reasons for the decision. The law also provides that a student enrolled in an equivalent instruction program is not eligible to participate in a cocurricular, interscholastic or extracurricular activity at a public school if the private school the student attends already provides that same activity.

LD 93 An Act To Require Public Secondary Schools To Offer a Course in Gun Safety and Handling ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS BURNS	ONTP	

This bill requires public secondary schools to offer a firearm safety and handling course that is optional for students.

LD 112 An Act To Make Changes to the Educators for Maine Program PUBLIC 7

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON CRAVEN	OTP	

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill changes the Educators for Maine Program by including certain participants in the Jobs for Maine's Graduates program as eligible for loan forgiveness.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 7 changes the Educators for Maine Program by including certain participants in the Jobs for Maine's Graduates program as eligible for loan forgiveness.

LD 113 An Act To Make Changes to the Maine College Savings Program

PUBLIC 4

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD W MILLETT	OTP	

This bill makes changes to the Maine College Savings Program, also known as NextGen or the NextGen College Investing Plan, by adding financial education to the list of permissible program fund uses.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 4 makes changes to the Maine College Savings Program, also known as NextGen or the NextGen College Investing Plan, by adding financial education to the list of permissible program fund uses.

LD 130 An Act To Stabilize Education Funding by Reducing the Impact of Changes in Property Valuation

PUBLIC 203

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT MALABY	OTP-AM	S-128

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to stabilize state funding for education by requiring the property fiscal capacity component of the essential programs and services funding formula to be based on a rolling 5-year average of the property values of a municipality included in a school administrative unit.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-128)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. This amendment stabilizes state funding for education by requiring the property fiscal capacity component of the essential programs and services funding formula to be based on a 2-year average of the property values of the municipalities included in a school administrative unit in fiscal year 2014-15 and to be based on a 3-year average of the property values of the municipalities included in a school administrative unit in fiscal year 2015-16 and each succeeding fiscal year.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 203 stabilizes state funding for education by requiring the property fiscal capacity component of the essential programs and services funding formula to be based on a 2-year average of the property values of the municipalities included in a school administrative unit in fiscal year 2014-15 and to be based on a 3-year average of the property values of the municipalities included in a school administrative unit in fiscal year 2015-16 and each succeeding fiscal year.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 160 An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Archaeological Sites

PUBLIC 89

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JORGENSEN KATZ	OTP-AM	H-62

This bill amends the laws governing the excavation of archaeological sites. It creates the new defined term "protected site" that takes the place of and has the same meaning as the current term "site". The new term "protected site" is then used throughout these laws in place of "site". The result is, with one exception, no net change in legal effect. The exception is the confidentiality provision. The bill modifies the current definition of "site" to remove all of the limiting criteria and uses this newly-defined term in the confidentiality section. The result is an expansion of confidentiality protection. Under current law, Maine Historic Preservation Commission or the Maine State Museum may designate as confidential any information in the possession of state agencies or the University of Maine System about the location or attributes of archeological sites only if the sites meet all the current limiting criteria (site is located on state-controlled land or land subject to a landowner agreement, site is listed on or eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and site is posted; or the site is given an emergency designation, with the permission of the landowner, as being directly threatened, and the site is posted). Under the bill, confidentiality may be extended to information about the location or attributes of any site containing artifacts or evidence of habitation, occupation or use by historic or prehistoric people.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-62)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It requires the directors of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Maine State Museum to establish procedures for reviewing at least once every 10 years site location information designated as confidential in order to determine whether continued confidentiality is necessary and, if not, to remove the confidentiality designation.
2. It requires the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Maine State Museum to consult with representatives of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Aroostook Band of Micmacs with regard to the adequate and appropriate curation of Native American artifacts recovered from protected sites, as defined in the bill.
3. It makes a technical wording change.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 89 makes the following changes to law.

Under current law, Maine Historic Preservation Commission or the Maine State Museum may designate as confidential any information in the possession of state agencies or the University of Maine System about the location or attributes of archeological sites only if the sites meet all the current limiting criteria (site is located on state-controlled land or land subject to a landowner agreement, site is listed on or eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and site is posted; or the site is given an emergency designation, with the permission of the landowner, as being directly threatened, and the site is posted). Under this law, confidentiality may be extended to information about the location or attributes of any site containing artifacts or evidence of habitation, occupation or use by historic or prehistoric people.

This law requires the directors of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Maine State Museum to establish procedures for reviewing at least once every 10 years site location information designated as confidential in order to determine whether continued confidentiality is necessary and, if not, to remove the confidentiality

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

designation.

It also requires the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Maine State Museum to consult with representatives of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Aroostook Band of Micmacs with regard to the adequate and appropriate curation of Native American artifacts recovered from protected sites, as defined in the bill.

LD 178 Resolve, To Provide Consistency in Rules of the Department of Education Regarding Visual and Performing Arts Requirements for High School Graduation

RESOLVE 38

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-156

This resolve requires the Department of Education to amend its rules relating to high school graduation requirements to permit the visual and performing arts requirement to be met by completion of a credit in dance, music, theater or visual arts. This change is intended to resolve confusion resulting from different descriptions of the standard for visual and performing arts requirements in the rules of the department.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-156)

This amendment adds forensics to the list of courses that the Department of Education must include in the amendments to its rules relating to courses that may fulfill high school graduation requirements in the area of visual and performing arts.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 38 requires the Department of Education to amend its rules relating to high school graduation requirements to permit the visual and performing arts requirement to be met by completion of a credit in dance, music, theater, forensics or visual arts. The resolve directs the department to determine the extent to which graduation requirements in the area of visual and performing arts may be met by the study of forensics, which may include, but is not limited to, the separate or integrated study of the art of public speaking, the art of formal debate and the interpretive performance of literature as they relate to the area of visual and performing arts.

LD 193 An Act To Authorize InterCoast Career Institute To Grant the Degree of Associate Degree in Applied Science

P & S 14

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHASE COLLINS	OTP	

This bill authorizes InterCoast Colleges to grant the degree of Associate Degree in Applied Science.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, Chapter 14 authorizes InterCoast Colleges to grant the degree of Associate Degree in Applied Science.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 194 An Act To Ensure That a Curtailment in School Funding Is Shared by All Institutions ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to ensure that if the Governor curtails funding for the state share of the costs of education the reduction in state funding must be shared equally by all entities receiving public funds for education purposes, including public schools, private schools and charter schools.

LD 195 An Act To Fund Education by Providing Equal State Funding for Each Student ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MALABY CUSHING	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend the school funding formula to require equal funding for each kindergarten to grade 12 student attending Maine public schools based on the pupil counts for April 1st and October 1st for the most recent calendar year.

LD 233 An Act To Require the Department of Education To Report on the Costs and Sources of Funding of Charter Schools LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT NELSON		

This bill directs an authorizer of public charter schools to report yearly to the Commissioner of Education the total amount of funds expended by each public charter school authorized by that authorizer and the source of those funds and directs the Department of Education to report by July 1st of each year to the Governor, the Legislature and the public the overall cost and source of funds for all public charter schools in the State and the overall cost and source of funds for each public charter school.

LD 243 Resolve, To Direct the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Regarding Restraint of Students RESOLVE 8 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO BLACK	OTP-AM	S-6

This resolve directs the Department of Education to amend its Rule Chapter 33: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion, which limits the use of restraint and seclusion. The current rule allows the use of those interventions only to prevent an imminent risk of injury or harm to a student or others. This resolve requires the rule to be changed to allow the use of restraint or seclusion to prevent significant property damage, to prevent disruption of the educational environment and when authorized in writing by a student's parent. The resolve also requires the rule to exclude some specific, limited techniques from the definition of "physical restraint," and to amend the definition

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

of "physical escort" to include picking up younger students. The resolve requires the department to make the required changes in the rule within 7 business days of the effective date of the resolve.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-6)

This amendment strikes and replaces the resolve to direct the Department of Education to amend its Rule Chapter 33: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion, which limits the use of restraint and seclusion. The current rule allows the use of those interventions only to prevent an imminent risk of injury or harm to a student or others. This resolve requires the rule to be changed as follows.

1. It provides that the threshold for the use of physical restraint or seclusion is to prevent the risk of injury or harm to the child.
2. It clarifies the definition of physical escort.
3. It clarifies that physical restraint does not include a brief period of physical contact necessary to break up a fight.
4. It provides that the department is required to provide consistent and accurate information regarding the requirements of the rule annually to teachers and administrators throughout the State.
5. It retains the provision in the resolve that requires the department to file the specific changes to the rule required by this resolve with the Secretary of State within seven business days of the effective date of the resolve, but it clarifies that these rule changes are routine technical rules, but that any changes to the rule on or after July 1, 2013 are major substantive rules.

The amendment also requires the department to present a report describing the implementation of the changes to the rule, including the effect of these changes on relevant stakeholders, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs not later than January 10, 2014.

Finally, the amendment requires the department to develop nonregulatory guidance regarding the amendments to the rule so that teachers and administrators have accurate information regarding these revised requirements. The department is required to submit a report detailing its guidance and related training efforts to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs before the end of the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 8 provides that final adoption of Chapter 33: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department making changes to the rule that:

1. Provide that the threshold for the use of physical restraint or seclusion is to prevent the risk of injury or harm to the child;
2. Clarify the definition of physical escort;
3. Clarify that physical restraint does not include a brief period of physical contact necessary to break up a fight;
4. Provide that the department is required to provide consistent and accurate information regarding the requirements of the rule annually to teachers and administrators throughout the State.
5. Require the department to file the specific changes to the rule required in this resolve with the Secretary of State within seven business days of the effective date. These rule changes are routine technical rules but that any changes made to the rule on or after July 1, 2013 are major substantive rules.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

The resolve also requires the department to present a report describing the implementation of the changes to the rule, including the effect of these changes on relevant stakeholders, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs not later than January 10, 2014.

Finally, the resolve requires the department to develop nonregulatory guidance regarding the amendments to the rule so that teachers and administrators have accurate information regarding these revised requirements. The department is required to submit a report detailing its guidance and related training efforts to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs before the end of the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Resolve 2013, chapter 8 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 15, 2013.

LD 244 An Act To Amend the Student Membership Criteria of the State Board of Education PUBLIC 15 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT DAUGHTRY	OTP	

This bill changes the criteria for the student members of the State Board of Education. Current law requires a student to reside in the congressional district that the student represents at the time of appointment. This bill requires the student to attend school in the congressional district the student represents at the time of appointment.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 15 changes the criteria for the student members of the State Board of Education. The law requires a student to reside to attend school in the congressional district the student represents at the time of appointment.

Public Law 2013, chapter 15 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 8, 2013.

**LD 299 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine ONTP
To Require the State Share of Education Funding To Be at Least
Fifty-five Percent of the Total Cost and One Hundred Percent of the
Cost of Special Education**

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

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require the Legislature to appropriate sufficient state funds to cover at least 55% of the total state and local cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 and 100% of the state and local costs of special education as approved pursuant to citizen-initiated legislation in 2004.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 300 An Act To Protect School Administrative Units and Taxpayers

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BECK SHERMAN		

This bill provides that an insurer providing health insurance covering employees of a school administrative unit is not required to provide loss information concerning those employees if requested by the school administrative unit.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 301 An Act To Remove Unnecessary Agenda from the School Day

ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to require a review by the Commissioner of Education of items required by law or policy to be taught or recognized in the public schools in kindergarten to grade 12 that are in addition to the curriculum implementing the statewide system of learning results under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209. The review must be conducted in consultation with representatives of school superintendents, teachers and parents. The review must categorize the additional items required to be taught or recognized, identify items that may have become obsolete or duplicative and recommend the most efficient and effective way to teach or recognize the required items without interfering with the time needed during the school day to provide effective teaching of knowledge required under the system of learning results. The commissioner would be authorized to report the results of the review to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters, which would be authorized to report out a bill, if necessary.

LD 322 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education

**RESOLVE 34
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-165

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a major substantive rule of the State Board of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-165)

This amendment provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education, is authorized contingent upon the State Board of Education making specified changes to the proposed rule.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Resolve 2013, chapter 34 provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education, is authorized contingent upon the State Board of Education making specified changes to the proposed rule.

Resolve 2013, chapter 34 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 3, 2013.

**LD 323 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101:
Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a
Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education**

**RESOLVE 52
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-191 S-111 MILLETT

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-191)

This amendment provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-111)

This amendment is a technical correction to Committee Amendment "A." It clarifies that the rule must be amended by deleting Part 4, "Criteria for Change in Eligibility," which exceeds federal requirements concerning necessary evaluation procedures.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 52 provides that final adoption of portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule.

Resolve 2013, chapter 52 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 13, 2013.

LD 351 An Act To Authorize the Provision of Insurance on Student Loans

**PUBLIC 34
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN FREDETTE	OTP-AM	S-8

This bill modifies the Finance Authority of Maine's Higher Education Loan Program to specify that the Finance Authority of Maine may provide loan insurance on supplemental student loans and renames it the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-8)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill:

1. It requires students receiving loans from or loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to make satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

standards of the students' institution of higher learning; and

2. It requires students receiving loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to satisfy financial education requirements established or approved by the authority.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 34 modifies the Finance Authority of Maine's Higher Education Loan Program to specify that the Finance Authority of Maine may provide loan insurance on supplemental student loans and renames it the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program. It also requires students receiving loans from or loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to make satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the standards of the students' institution of higher learning and requires students receiving loans insured by the Finance Authority of Maine under the Higher Education Loan and Loan Insurance Program to satisfy financial education requirements established or approved by the authority.

Public Law 2013, chapter 34 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 16, 2013.

LD 367 An Act To Repeal the Repeal Provision in the Law That Limits the ONTP
Reduction of State Subsidy for Education

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER MAKER	ONTP	

This bill repeals the repeal provision in the law that exempts a school administrative unit from a reduction in its state subsidy for failure to raise its required local contribution to the total cost of funding public education if the unit raises the same percentage of the local contribution as the State raises of the state contribution.

LD 369 An Act To Redesign Maine's School Funding Model CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C BERRY		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes a redesign of Maine's school funding formula to achieve equal educational opportunity for Maine students and statewide equity in property tax burden.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 370 Resolve, To Create a Working Group To Identify Elementary School RESOLVE 22
and Middle School Applied Learning Opportunities

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY POULIOT	OTP-AM	S-37

This resolve is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to assemble a working group to identify opportunities for and best practices of applied learning opportunities in kindergarten to grade 8. These

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

opportunities and practices will then be posted on the Department of Education's website so that all schools may access them and benefit from them.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-37)

This amendment replaces the resolve, which is a concept draft, with a resolve to convene a working group to identify opportunities for providing applied learning pathways for students enrolled in kindergarten to grade 8 in public schools in the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 22 establishes a working group to identify opportunities for providing applied learning pathways for students enrolled in kindergarten to grade 8 in public schools in the State.

LD 383 An Act To Increase Public Awareness Regarding School Budget Elections

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCLELLAN	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill changes the form of the question required in a budget validation referendum for a regional school unit to include the total dollar amount of the school budget and the percentage increase or decrease in the school budget compared to the budget in the previous year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-253)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to require that the information provided by a regional school unit board, which must be posted at polling places during a budget validation referendum vote, must include a statement that includes the total dollar amount of authorized expenditures in the budget for the upcoming school year and the amount of the percentage increase or decrease of the total authorized expenditures as compared to the total authorized expenditures in the budget approved and validated in the previous school year.

LD 384 An Act To Allow Spouses and Children of Veterans Killed in the Line of Duty To Receive the State Tuition Waiver

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VILLA VALENTINO	ONTP	

This bill provides tuition waivers to state postsecondary educational institutions for spouses and children of members of the United States Armed Forces who have been killed or injured while on duty. This tuition waiver is currently available for spouses and children of firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical services persons who have been killed or injured while on duty.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 409 Resolve, To Establish a Veteran-to-farmer Training Pilot Program

RESOLVE 69

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN SHERMAN	OTP-AM	H-413

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to establish the Veteran-to-farmer Training Pilot Program.

1. The bill will require the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Department of Labor, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Veterans and Emergency Management to design a pilot program for a postsecondary education certificate program that will enable United States military veterans to develop necessary skills in farming while also addressing the difficulties some veterans face in transitioning back to civilian life after military service.
2. The certificate program would provide a hands-on farming skills training curriculum, classroom-based business training, business start-up support and health monitoring for veterans.
3. After its design, the curriculum will be submitted to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for approval in order to allow eligible veterans to use federal G.I. Bill education benefits for participation in the certificate program.
4. Completion of the certificate program would enable veterans to create new farm businesses and to meet the requirements to acquire the leases and loans needed to farm.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-413)

This amendment replaces the concept draft with a resolve that directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, in consultation with the agriculture program at Kennebec Valley Community College, the Maine Apprenticeship Program in the Department of Labor, the Finance Authority of Maine and the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Veterans' Services, to design a veteran-to-farmer training pilot program that enables veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States to develop necessary skills in farming while also addressing the difficulties some veterans face in their transition back to civilian life after military service. The amendment also requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to jointly submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 10, 2014. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 69 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, in consultation with the agriculture program at Kennebec Valley Community College, the Maine Apprenticeship Program in the Department of Labor, the Finance Authority of Maine and the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Veterans' Services, to design a veteran-to-farmer training pilot program that enables veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States to develop necessary skills in farming while also addressing the difficulties some veterans face in their transition back to civilian life after military service. The resolve also requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to jointly submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 10, 2014. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 417 An Act To Ensure That All Voters Are Able To Vote in Regional School Unit Budget Elections ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THOMAS KNIGHT	ONTP	

This bill makes several changes to the annual budget approval process for regional school units. The bill:

1. Changes the annual budget meeting at which the regional school unit's budget is initially adopted by registered district voters to an annual public hearing on the budget at which residents of the regional school unit have an opportunity to offer public comments but do not vote on the proposed budget;
2. Authorizes the regional school unit's board to make changes to the budget presented at the public hearing and to propose the amended budget for approval by voters at a referendum in the municipalities comprising the regional school unit;
3. Changes the current budget adoption process from a validation vote to an annual referendum vote asking voters to accept or reject the budget presented by the board of the regional school unit; and
4. Amends the process that regional school units must follow when voters reject a proposed school budget at referendum.

LD 422 An Act Regarding Enrollment and Graduation Rates of First-generation Higher Education Students PUBLIC 166

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE KATZ	OTP-AM	H-116

This bill is in response to a recommendation of the Task Force on Franco-Americans. This bill requires the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to establish a working group including representatives of public and private institutions of higher education in the State to study and develop a strategy to increase enrollment and graduation rates for first-generation college students who are residents of the State. The board is required to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters on activities over the previous year by institutions of higher education in the State to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-116)

This amendment replaces the bill but preserves much of the intent of the bill. The amendment requires the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy to each submit annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters a report that includes data regarding enrollment of first-generation college students and educational outcomes, including graduation rates for first-generation college students compared with other students; a summary of strategies used and activities undertaken to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students; and plans or recommendations for new strategies or activities designed to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students. The committee is authorized to submit legislation relating to the subject matter of the report.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Public Law 2013, chapter 166 requires the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Maritime Academy to each submit annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters a report that includes data regarding enrollment of first-generation college students and educational outcomes, including graduation rates for first-generation college students compared with other students; a summary of strategies used and activities undertaken to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students; and plans or recommendations for new strategies or activities designed to increase enrollment and graduation rates of first-generation college students. The committee is authorized to submit legislation relating to the subject matter of the report.

LD 439 An Act To Improve Maine's Charter School Laws

PUBLIC 272

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON G JOHNSON P	OTP-AM	S-127

This bill makes changes to the public charter school approval and funding processes. It provides that the 90-day deadline for an authorizer to make decisions on public charter school applications runs from the deadline for submission of all applications, not from the date that each application is submitted. It requires an authorizer to make its expectations of the applicant clear when requesting resubmission of an application. It allows the public charter school application to be incorporated by reference into the charter contract.

With regard to funding of public charter schools, the bill changes the manner of adjusting payments from noncharter public schools to public charter schools when students move into or out of public charter schools after the beginning of the school year. Under current law, only the last payment from the noncharter public school in June is adjusted. This bill requires adjustment of the March and June payments to avoid potential overpayments to a public charter school when students leave the public charter school in the first half of the school year.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-127)

This amendment strikes the change to the public charter school approval provision in the bill that requires an authorizer to make the authorizer's expectations of the applicant clear when requesting resubmission of an application and removes the provision in current law that allows an authorizer to request resubmission of an application.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 272 makes changes to the public charter school approval and funding processes. It provides that the 90-day deadline for an authorizer to make decisions on public charter school applications runs from the deadline for submission of all applications, not from the date that each application is submitted. It allows the public charter school application to be incorporated by reference into the charter contract. With regard to funding of public charter schools, the law changes the manner of adjusting payments from noncharter public schools to public charter schools when students move into or out of public charter schools after the beginning of the school year.

**LD 442 Resolve, To Ensure the Continued Accessibility and Affordability of a
High School Equivalency Exam for Maine Residents**

RESOLVE 49

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY GIFFORD	OTP-AM	S-172

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This resolve requires the Department of Education to examine the options for the administration of a high school equivalency examination and to develop a plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination. The department shall submit its report and plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by April 1, 2013.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-172)

This amendment strikes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause from the resolve and amends the resolve to provide that the review conducted by the Department of Education on the options for the administration of a high school equivalency examination must include an analysis of the implementation costs that would be required to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The amendment also requires that the department's plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination must also address the continued state funding support and technical assistance necessary to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The amendment changes the reporting date to October 1, 2013.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 49 requires the Department of Education to examine the options for the administration of a high school equivalency examination and to develop a plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination. The review conducted by the department must include an analysis of the implementation costs that would be required to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The department's plan for the continued availability of a high school equivalency examination must also address the continued state funding support and technical assistance necessary to transition to a computer-based high school equivalency examination. The department shall submit its report and plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by October 1, 2013.

LD 462 An Act To Dedicate Funds for Emergency Back-up Power for Schools ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY COLLINS	ONTP	

This bill provides that if a school administrative unit participates in the Percent for Art Program it must use at least 1/2 of the amount identified for this purpose to provide back-up electrical power to the school, building or facility being constructed.

LD 464 An Act To Change Compensation for Career and Technical Education CARRIED OVER
Region Cooperative Board Meeting Attendance

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHAPMAN	OTP-AM	

This bill increases the compensation for a career and technical education region cooperative board member from \$10 to \$20 for each meeting the member attends.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-279)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

H-C (H-582).

LD 466 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Awarding a High School Diploma to Veterans

PUBLIC 281

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN TUTTLE	OTP-AM	H-471

This bill directs the Department of Education with assistance from the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to issue honorary secondary school diplomas to qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who did not finish secondary school.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-471)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to make changes that are consistent with the current statutory provisions established for awarding a high school diploma to qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who did not finish secondary school during certain periods of wartime. The amendment adds provisions to the current law that allow for awarding a high school diploma to a qualifying veteran who did not finish secondary school during the period of wartime or peacetime that followed World War II, the Korean Conflict or the Vietnam War.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 281 make changes that are consistent with the current statutory provisions established for awarding a high school diploma to qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who did not finish secondary school during certain periods of wartime. The law allows for awarding a high school diploma to a qualifying veteran who did not finish secondary school during the period of wartime or peacetime that followed World War II, the Korean Conflict or the Vietnam War.

LD 481 Resolve, To Review the Laws Governing the Funding of Virtual Public Charter Schools

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD W	OTP-AM OTP-AM	

This bill amends the laws governing virtual public charter schools to:

1. Require the authorizer of a virtual public charter school to review and approve the courses and curricula for the virtual public charter school prior to the beginning of each school year;
2. Require that education personnel operating a virtual public charter school hold valid teacher certification in the State;
3. Require that each virtual public charter school student receive at least 2 personal visits from a teacher during each school year; and
4. Provide that only 20% of the per-pupil allocation of state and local operating funds follows the student to a virtual public charter school.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-437)

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, amends the bill to provide that part-time teachers must also meet the teacher employment provisions of the public charter school law. The amendment also directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Maine Charter School Commission, to review funding provisions related to determining the per-pupil allocation amount necessary for the costs of operating virtual public charter schools and validating the appropriate amount of operating costs that should be provided for students enrolled in virtual public charter schools and report the results of its review to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-438)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve that directs the Department of Education, in consultation with the Maine Charter School Commission, to review funding provisions related to determining the per-pupil allocation amount necessary for the costs of operating virtual public charter schools and validating the appropriate amount of operating costs that should be provided for students enrolled in virtual public charter schools and report the results of its review to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 485 An Act To Amend and Clarify Certain Education Laws

PUBLIC 167

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P LANGLEY	OTP-AM	H-149

This bill amends and clarifies certain education laws. Part A amends and clarifies requirements for the withdrawal of a municipality from a regional school unit and provides that annual audits must include a schedule of expenditures of federal funds. Part B:

1. Amends and clarifies allowable debt service costs for state-funded school construction projects and repeals obsolete language;
2. Clarifies when design and funding approval by the State Board of Education is granted;
3. Clarifies that a local school unit will be notified by the Commissioner of Education only after any approved vote has been considered by the State Board of Education; and
4. Clarifies statutory language requiring the compliance review of state-funded school construction projects.

Part C:

1. Revises the definition of "adult education" to provide that adult education programs must be provided through a career pathways and service system and to include adult workforce training and retraining and adult career and technical education in the list of adult education courses;
2. Provides that career and technical education regions may offer only adult career and technical education and adult workforce training and retraining courses and must perform intake and data management functions;
3. Removes career pathways learners from the list of learners served by adult workforce training and retraining;

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

4. Repeals the definition of "career pathways services" as a separate service as it has now been integrated as part of the overall definition of "adult education"; and
5. Includes college transition courses and adult workforce training and retraining among other administrative costs for the purpose of reimbursement.

Part D authorizes the Commissioner of Education to issue subpoenas for education records relevant to an investigation regarding the certification of educational personnel.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-149)

This amendment refines the provision in Part C of the bill to clarify that career and technical education regions may be eligible for reimbursement for adult career and technical education courses and adult workforce training and retraining courses. The amendment clarifies that career and technical education regions must meet the accountability requirements described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 8601-A, subsection 1, including the use of the adult education intake form and the adult education data management system.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 167 amends and clarifies the following education laws.

1. It amends and clarifies requirements for the withdrawal of a municipality from a regional school unit;
2. It provides that annual audits must include a schedule of expenditures of federal funds.
3. It amends and clarifies provisions related to school construction projects, including:
 - A. The allowable debt service costs for state-funded school construction projects and repeals obsolete language;
 - B. When design and funding approval by the State Board of Education is granted for state-funded school construction projects;
 - C. When a local school unit will be notified by the Commissioner of Education after an approved vote has been considered by the State Board of Education; and
 - D. Refining statutory language requiring the compliance review of state-funded school construction projects.
4. It amends and clarifies provisions related to adult education programs, including:
 - A. Revising the definition of "adult education" to provide that adult education programs must be provided through a career pathways and service system and to include adult workforce training and retraining and adult career and technical education in the list of adult education courses;
 - B. Clarifying that career and technical education regions may be eligible for reimbursement for adult career and technical education courses and adult workforce training and retraining courses when they meet the accountability requirements described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 8601-A, subsection 1;
 - C. Removing career pathways learners from the list of learners served by adult workforce training and retraining;
 - D. Repealing the definition of "career pathways services" as a separate service as it has now been integrated as part of the overall definition of "adult education"; and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

E. Incorporating college transition courses and adult workforce training and retraining among other administrative costs for the purpose of reimbursement.

5. It authorizes the Commissioner of Education to issue subpoenas for education records relevant to an investigation regarding the certification of educational personnel.

LD 521 An Act To Change the Budget Approval Process for Alternative Organizational Structures VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS MAKER	OTP	

This bill changes the school budget approval process for alternative organizational structures. Current law requires that a change in who approves a budget must be approved at the next statewide election. The bill requires that such a determination of who approves a budget must be approved at a special meeting authorized by a majority of the governing body of the alternative organizational structure rather than at the next statewide election.

LD 528 An Act To Require Parental Consent for a School To Conduct Mental Health or Behavioral Screening on a Student ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FITZPATRICK BURNS	ONTP	

This bill requires a school administrative unit to obtain written consent from a student's parent or guardian before conducting any mental health or behavioral screening or testing of the student.

LD 529 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop Safety Standards for School Access ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARVELL SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Education to develop safety standards for entryways in existing and new school construction and report these standards to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2014.

LD 530 An Act To Ensure That the Standard of a Student's Best Interest Is Applied to Superintendent Agreements for Transfer Students PUBLIC 337

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-316

This bill clarifies the standard to be applied by superintendents when considering the transfer of a student from one school administrative unit to another by incorporating the standard set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

20-A, section 2, which is that a student must be provided an opportunity to receive the benefits of a free public education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-316)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to ensure that the standard of a student's best interest is applied to decisions made regarding superintendent agreements for transfer students. The amendment provides that certain procedures must be implemented when the request of a parent to transfer a student from one school administrative unit to another is not approved by the superintendents and the parent of the student appeals the superintendents' decision to the Commissioner of Education.

When the superintendents have not approved the transfer, the superintendents are required to provide the student's parent with a written description of the basis of their determination that the transfer is not in the student's best interest. The commissioner must review the superintendents' determination and communicate with the parent and the superintendents before making a decision on an appeal. The commissioner must provide the parent and the superintendents with a written description of the basis of the commissioner's determination that the transfer is or is not in the student's best interest.

If dissatisfied with the commissioner's decision, the parent or either superintendent may request an appeal within 10 calendar days to the State Board of Education. The state board is required to review the commissioner's determination and communicate with the commissioner, the parent and the superintendents before making a decision on the appeal. The decision must be made within 30 days of the request for an appeal and must provide the parent, the superintendents and the commissioner with a written description of the basis of the state board's determination that the transfer is or is not in the student's best interest. The state board's decision is final and binding.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 337 ensures that the standard of a student's best interest is applied to decisions made regarding superintendent agreements for transfer students. The law provides that certain procedures must be implemented when the request of a parent to transfer a student from one school administrative unit to another is not approved by the superintendents and the parent of the student appeals the superintendents' decision to the Commissioner of Education.

When the superintendents have not approved the transfer, the superintendents are required to provide the student's parent with a written description of the basis of their determination that the transfer is not in the student's best interest. The commissioner must review the superintendents' determination and communicate with the parent and the superintendents before making a decision on an appeal. The commissioner must provide the parent and the superintendents with a written description of the basis of the commissioner's determination that the transfer is or is not in the student's best interest.

If dissatisfied with the commissioner's decision, the parent or either superintendent may request an appeal within 10 calendar days to the State Board of Education. The state board is required to review the commissioner's determination and communicate with the commissioner, the parent and the superintendents before making a decision on the appeal. The decision must be made within 30 days of the request for an appeal and must provide the parent, the superintendents and the commissioner with a written description of the basis of the state board's determination that the transfer is or is not in the student's best interest. The state board's decision is final and binding.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 531 An Act To Allow Students To Audit Classes at University of Maine System Campuses

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANDERSON LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

This bill requires the University of Maine System to permit students to audit a class if space is available in the class. The university is required to charge a fee from \$50 to \$250 for auditing a class, and the student must pay the cost of materials and related fees for the class. An auditing student does not receive credit or grades for the class.

The committee sent a letter to the University of Maine System requesting that it seek to further expand its auditing programs to address the overall purposes of this bill; the letter requests a report to the committee in the Second Regular Session on actions taken by the university.

LD 532 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Maine State Library

PUBLIC 82

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C LACHOWICZ	OTP-AM	H-73

This bill updates and modifies laws governing the Maine State Library.

1. It updates language regarding library hours and the taking of books.
2. It slightly modifies language regarding the relationship between the Department of Education's school library media section and the State Librarian: current law indicates that the department maintains the media section in cooperation with the State Librarian; the bill provides that the Librarian shall assist the media section in carrying on its activities.
3. It removes maintaining and providing a video tape library from the list of activities that the Department of Education must perform in its school library media section and adds to the list maintaining and providing an electronic library service and database library.
4. It repeals the provision of law that authorizes the State Librarian to provide bookmobile service.
5. It updates a provision of law relating to the State Librarian to make it gender neutral.
6. It decreases the amount of town histories or other books concerning the history of the State that the State Librarian must purchase from 25 copies to 2 copies. It also repeals the provision that requires the State Librarian to distribute the histories to school, state, institutional and public libraries, and it repeals the provision that allows the State Librarian to sell any surplus of the histories.
7. It repeals the provision of law that requires the State Librarian to make a gift of money or provide books to a municipality that is establishing a free library.
8. It provides that the State Librarian, rather than the Commissioner of the Department of Education, may designate research centers.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

9. It removes a provision requiring the Commissioner of the Department of Education to establish policies governing regional library district consultants

10. It authorizes the State Librarian, rather than the Maine Library Commission, to apportion funds for support of regional library system.

11. It modifies the provision of law governing the confidentiality of public library records (identity of patron relative to use of library materials) to include all state and local public libraries; current law limits application to local public libraries to public municipal libraries (about half of local public libraries are not "municipal").

Committee Amendment "A" (H-73)

This amendment removes the section of the bill that modifies the relationship between the Maine State Library and the Department of Education with respect to the school library media section.

This amendment also adds a definition to the confidentiality section of law amended by the bill. The section governs the confidentiality of public library records that identify patrons relative to use of library materials; current law provides confidentiality for local public municipal libraries. The bill removes "municipal" so that all local public libraries are included. The amendment defines "public library" by reference to the definition of that term in the chapter of law governing the regional library system; the definition encompasses any library freely open to the public that serves the needs of all the residents of the area for which its governing body is responsible.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law, chapter 82 updates and modifies laws governing the Maine State Library.

1. It updates language regarding library hours and the taking of books.
2. It removes maintaining and providing a video tape library from the list of activities that the Department of Education must perform in its school library media section and adds to the list maintaining and providing an electronic library service and database library.
3. It repeals the provision of law that authorizes the State Librarian to provide bookmobile service.
4. It updates a provision of law relating to the State Librarian to make it gender neutral.
5. It decreases the amount of town histories or other books concerning the history of the State that the State Librarian must purchase from 25 copies to 2 copies. It also repeals the provision that requires the State Librarian to distribute the histories to school, state, institutional and public libraries, and it repeals the provision that allows the State Librarian to sell any surplus of the histories.
6. It repeals the provision of law that requires the State Librarian to make a gift of money or provide books to a municipality that is establishing a free library.
7. It provides that the State Librarian, rather than the Commissioner of the Department of Education, may designate research centers.
8. It removes a provision requiring the Commissioner of the Department of Education to establish policies governing regional library district consultants
9. It authorizes the State Librarian, rather than the Maine Library Commission, to apportion funds for support of regional library system.
10. It modifies the provision of law governing the confidentiality of public library records (identity of patron

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

relative to use of library materials) to include all state and local public libraries; current law limits application to local public libraries to public municipal libraries (about half of local public libraries are not "municipal"). It defines "public library" by reference to the definition of that term in the chapter of law governing the regional library system; the definition encompasses any library freely open to the public that serves the needs of all the residents of the area for which its governing body is responsible.

LD 533 An Act To Eliminate the Requirement That Local Funding Follow a Pupil to a Charter School ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD W	ONTP	

This bill eliminates the requirement that a school administrative unit's local contribution to the per-pupil allocation follow a student to a public charter school and instead requires only that the State's contribution to the per-pupil allocation follow the student to a public charter school but allows the local contribution to follow a student attending a public charter school established solely to address the needs of at-risk pupils as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2401. The bill also limits to 20% the State's contribution to the per-pupil allocation that follows a student to a virtual public charter school, except when the virtual public charter school is established solely to address the needs of at-risk pupils.

LD 595 An Act To Exempt School Administrative Units That Do Not Directly Serve Children with Disabilities from Certain Reporting Requirements ONTP

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

This bill provides that the Commissioner of Education may not require a school administrative unit to file reports regarding special education if the unit does not operate schools or if special education services for the unit's children with disabilities are provided by another school administrative unit that includes those children in its reports.

LD 609 An Act To Increase Suicide Awareness and Prevention in Maine Public Schools PUBLIC 53

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILBERT MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-86

This bill requires the Department of Education to adopt rules on standards for schools and school administrative units for suicide prevention education and training. The training and education will include suicide prevention awareness education for all personnel and more advanced suicide prevention and intervention training for at least 2 persons per school district.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-86)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. It adds a mandate preamble and provides that all of the requirements proposed in the bill for suicide prevention awareness education and suicide prevention and intervention training for school personnel are included in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4502. The amendment also provides that rules adopted by the Department of Education on standards for suicide awareness education and suicide prevention and intervention training for school personnel are routine technical rules, but that, beginning July 1, 2014, any subsequent changes to rules are major substantive rules.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 53 requires the Department of Education to adopt rules on standards for schools and school administrative units for suicide prevention education and training. The training and education will include suicide prevention awareness education for all personnel and more advanced suicide prevention and intervention training for at least 2 persons per school district. The law also provides that rules adopted by the department on standards for suicide awareness education and suicide prevention and intervention training for school personnel are routine technical rules, but that, beginning July 1, 2014, any subsequent changes to rules are major substantive rules.

LD 615 An Act To Protect School Administrative Units from a Sudden Decrease ONTP
in Funding due to Reduced Enrollments

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCABE CAIN	ONTP	

This bill allows a school administrative unit to request reimbursement from the State when the unit has experienced a sudden and severe loss of funding due to the enrollment of students from that unit in public charter schools. The bill establishes criteria that a school administrative unit must meet to qualify for reimbursement. It also establishes a process by which school administrative units may petition the Commissioner of Education for reimbursement of a portion of the lost funds. The bill also establishes a reimbursement formula that the commissioner must use to calculate reimbursement amounts for qualifying school administrative units.

LD 623 An Act To Promote the Attainment of Higher Education Degrees ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT CUSHING	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to adjust the disbursement of financial aid packages to provide an incentive for a student enrolled in a postsecondary institution to complete that student's degree. Instead of providing the total amount of financial aid up front, leading to the exhaustion of available aid prior to the completion of course work, this bill would spread the financial aid out over the course of a student's enrollment. The intent of the bill is to ensure that enough financial aid is available to allow a student who is within 15 credits of completing the necessary requirements for graduation to pay for those credits.

See Part J of Committee Amendment "A" to LD 90 for provisions related to the purposes of this bill.

LD 638 An Act To Require That School Budget Referenda Be Held on the Same ONTP
Day as Primary Elections

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHITTEMORE DUNPHY	ONTP	

This bill requires a regional school unit board to hold a regional school unit budget meeting no later than 30 days

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

before the date of the statewide primary or referendum election in June or the 2nd Tuesday in June if a statewide primary or referendum election is not held in June that year and requires the budget validation referendum to be held on the same date as the statewide primary or referendum election in June or on the 2nd Tuesday in June if a statewide primary or referendum election is not held in June that year. The bill changes the provisions governing absentee ballots for a budget validation referendum.

LD 665 An Act To Facilitate the Transition to a Standards-based Educational System ONTP

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

Current law provides that the date for implementation of awarding diplomas based on student demonstration of proficiency is extended one year for each year for which levels of general purpose aid for local schools falls below the levels provided in school year 2012-2013. This bill instead extends the implementation date one year for each year for which levels of general purpose aid for local schools falls below 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 pursuant to the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

LD 666 Resolve, To Create a Working Group To Survey Maine Schools on the Costs and Benefits of Contracting for Energy Conservation Improvements DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GIFFORD THOMAS	OTP-AM	H-217

This bill requires approval in a local vote before a school administrative unit may spend any funds on a school construction project other than a small scale school construction project with a total cost of less than \$2,000,000.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-217)

This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it with a resolve that directs the Department of Education to convene a working group to study the opportunities and challenges presented to school administrative units with respect to implementing energy savings programs, including entering into agreements for energy conservation improvements, and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 10, 2014. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

LD 667 An Act To Increase Funding to Schools PUBLIC 171

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAKER ALFOND	OTP ONTP	H-125 MAKER

This bill amends the law that provides for a proportional share reduction in the amount of local share revenues that municipalities must raise under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act when the State does not fund the 55% state share required by law. The bill phases out the proportional share reduction over a 3-year period from fiscal year 2014-15 to fiscal year 2016-17.

House Amendment "A" (H-125)

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause and corrects a history.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 171 amends the law that provides for a proportional share reduction in the amount of local share revenues that municipalities must raise under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act when the State does not fund the 55% state share required by law. The law phases out the proportional share reduction over a 3-year period from fiscal year 2014-15 to fiscal year 2016-17.

LD 668 An Act To Encourage the Teaching of Agricultural Studies in Schools

PUBLIC 106

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAUGHTRY JOHNSON C	OTP-AM	H-88

This bill requires agriculture studies to be taught in elementary and secondary schools in the State for essential instruction and graduation requirements. The bill requires that agriculture studies address the importance of agriculture in the State's history and development, the connections between the farm and daily life and the economics of agriculture and its importance to the State's economy. The bill also requires the Department of Education to consult with the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Council in developing the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements for agriculture studies.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-88)

This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment authorizes agricultural studies to be taught in and infused or integrated into the curriculum of elementary and secondary schools, both public and private. Agricultural studies may address, but need not be limited to, the importance of agriculture in the State's history and development, the connections between the farm and daily life, the economics of agriculture and its importance to the State's economy, the importance of knowing where food comes from and the ecology of growing food and the importance of eating healthy food and its role in combating childhood obesity.

This amendment also directs that, to the extent existing resources allow, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Council implement outreach efforts to ensure that schools and teachers are aware of the educational materials, resources and training relating to agricultural studies available pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, chapter 8-D.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 106 authorizes agricultural studies to be taught in and infused or integrated into the curriculum of elementary and secondary schools, both public and private. Agricultural studies may address, but need not be limited to, the importance of agriculture in the State's history and development, the connections between the farm and daily life, the economics of agriculture and its importance to the State's economy, the importance of knowing where food comes from and the ecology of growing food and the importance of eating healthy food and its role in combating childhood obesity.

This law directs that, to the extent existing resources allow, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Maine Agriculture in the Classroom Council implement outreach efforts to ensure that schools and teachers are aware of the educational materials, resources and training relating to agricultural studies available pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, chapter 8-D.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 669 An Act Requiring School Administrative Units To Adopt School Volunteer Policies ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEAULIEU LANGLEY	ONTP	

This bill requires each school board to adopt and implement by the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year policies governing the screening and assignment of school volunteers. The policies must be consistent with model policies developed by the Commissioner of Education. The model policies must be developed no later than July 1, 2014 by the commissioner in consultation with state and local law enforcement officials, school boards and appropriate school personnel.

LD 670 Resolve, To Encourage the Use of Career Interest and Aptitude Tests in Higher Education VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOLAND CUSHING	OTP-AM	H-244

This bill requires the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System to allow a student to receive priority in course registration if the student takes and submits prior to course registration, in accordance with procedures approved by the respective system, a career interest test.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-244)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Education Coordinating Committee to review options that would allow a student enrolled in a postsecondary education program at the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System or the Maine Maritime Academy to receive priority in course registration if the student takes and submits a career interest test prior to course registration, in accordance with procedures approved by the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System or the Maine Maritime Academy.

LD 671 An Act To Protect Charter Schools by Requiring Them To Be Operated as Nonprofit Organizations VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAUGHTRY MILLETT	OTP-AM ONTP	H-245

This bill requires that public charter schools and virtual public charter schools established in this State be operated as nonprofit organizations.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-245)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The bill requires that public charter schools and virtual public charter schools established in this State be operated as nonprofit organizations. The amendment retains these provisions and revises the definition of "education service provider" to provide that an education service provider must be a nonprofit, nonreligious organization.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 672 An Act Relating to Exemption from Immunization for Schoolchildren

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRAHAM GRATWICK	OTP-AM ONTP	

This bill requires that a school health care provider provide to the parent of a child excepted from the immunization requirements for schoolchildren in the State information about the benefits and risks of immunization and sign a statement that the information has been provided to the parent.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-400)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, clarifies that a school health advisor or a designee of a school health advisor must provide to the parent of a child excepted from the State's immunization requirements for schoolchildren information consisting of vaccine information statements prepared by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about the benefits and risks of immunization and sign a statement that the information has been provided to the parent. It requires the Commissioner of Education to establish procedures to reimburse school administrative units for 90% of the cost of assembling vaccine information statements and sending them to parents of children excepted from the immunization requirements. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 673 Resolve, To Increase Awareness of Food Allergies in Public Schools

RESOLVE 42

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TREAT JOHNSON C	OTP-AM	H-158

This bill requires a school superintendent who receives documentation that a student has a food allergy to send a food allergy awareness information sheet to all parents of students at the school asking them not to bring or send with their students that type of food to school and a brochure to the parent of the allergic student containing information to educate the parent on coping with food allergies at schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-158)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Department of Education to seek to increase awareness of the seriousness of student food allergies, the resources that are available to help schools identify, address and respond to student food allergies, including training for teachers, best practices and the applicable laws.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 42 directs the Department of Education to seek to increase awareness of the seriousness of student food allergies, the resources that are available to help schools identify, address and respond to student food allergies, including training for teachers, best practices and the applicable laws.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 699 An Act To Allow Public Schools To Offer Classes Limited to Students of a Single Gender

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE BOLAND	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill adds single-gender classes to the pathways that may be used to provide learning opportunities for elementary and secondary school students in the State. The bill also specifies policies that elementary and secondary schools must adopt before offering single-gender classes. It also provides a definition of "single-gender class" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-27)

This amendment is the minority report and replaces the bill. This amendment provides that the Maine Human Rights Act does not prohibit single-sex classes that are permitted under the United States Department of Education regulations, 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 106.34(b).

LD 709 An Act To Require Students To Receive Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator prior to Graduation

ONTP

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

This bill requires that, as a condition of graduation from high school, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, each student receive instruction and achieve proficiency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator.

LD 715 An Act To Improve Access to Career and Technical Schools

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P	OTP-AM	

This bill provides for the reimbursement by the State of the actual transportation costs for career and technical education students who reside in a school administrative unit that is determined to be an isolated small unit pursuant to the provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. Isolated small units must be reimbursed in the following fiscal year for the actual transportation costs for career and technical education students that are incurred in a fiscal year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-223)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment provides that certain isolated small school administrative units are eligible for an adjustment under the school funding formula to reimburse the units for transportation costs expended for transporting students to and from a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region. To be eligible, a unit must receive the minimum state allocation based on the unit's special education costs. The reimbursement is based on actual net costs incurred during the base year under the funding

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

formula. The amendment includes an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 723 An Act To Ensure the Proper Treatment of Bullying Situations in Schools ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MCCLELLAN	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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This bill modifies the law governing school policies on bullying to require that:

1. Policies governing written documentation be developed and established by each school board in consultation with teachers;
2. The policies include procedures for investigating and attempting to resolve an allegation of bullying involving a person without any prior history of bullying, under which the incident, if it can be informally and satisfactorily resolved among the affected individuals, does not require written documentation; and
3. Within 90 days after the effective date of this legislation, the Commissioner of Education modify the commissioner's model policy to address bullying and cyberbullying to make it consistent with the provisions of this legislation and provide the modified model policy to each school administrative unit in the State and post it on the publicly accessible portion of the Department of Education's website along with any training and instructional materials related to the policy that the commissioner determines necessary.

LD 729 An Act To Allow Charter Schools To Request Waivers from Certain Requirements PUBLIC 216

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MASON G	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-137
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This bill allows, upon approval by the public charter school's authorizer, a public charter school to request from the Commissioner of Education a waiver of a civil rights or a health and safety requirement. The bill provides that the commissioner may take into consideration the financial hardship of the public charter school in carrying out the requirement in making a determination.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-137)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to clarify that the request from a public charter school for a waiver of one or more statutory requirements applicable to the public charter school may not include a request for a waiver of requirements established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2412, subsection 5 related to civil rights and health and safety, student assessment and accountability, conflicts of interest and public records and proceedings, criminal history record checks and fingerprinting and special education.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 216 allows, upon approval by the public charter school's authorizer, a public charter school to request from the Commissioner of Education a waiver of requirement established in state law, except that a public charter school may not include a request for a waiver of requirements established in the Maine Revised

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Statutes, Title 20-A, section 2412, subsection 5 related to civil rights and health and safety, student assessment and accountability, conflicts of interest and public records and proceedings, criminal history record checks and fingerprinting and special education.

LD 742 An Act To Amend the Regional School Unit Budget Validation Process ONTP

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

This bill amends the regional school unit budget validation process. Current law requires that, if the budget is not validated at the budget validation referendum, the process must be repeated until a budget is approved at a regional school unit budget meeting and validated at referendum and, if the budget is not approved and validated before July 1st of each year, then the latest budget approved at a regional school unit budget meeting and submitted to the voters for validation at a referendum in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1486 is automatically considered the budget for the ensuing year until a final budget is approved. This bill requires that, if the budget approved at the regional school unit budget meeting does not gain approval by voters at the budget validation referendum, the process must be repeated until a budget is validated at referendum, except that, when a regional school unit has conducted a minimum of 2 regional school unit budget meetings and 2 budget validation referenda prior to August 30th, the budget approved at the last regional school unit budget meeting becomes the budget for the fiscal year. If a regional school unit has not conducted 2 such cycles of budget meetings and referenda by August 30th, the regional school unit is required to conduct 2 complete budget approval cycles, if necessary, without a time limit, and, if the regional school unit conducts 2 full cycles of budget meetings and referenda and the budget is not validated at referendum, the budget approved at the last regional school unit budget meeting becomes the budget for the fiscal year.

LD 750 An Act To Make the Completion of an Internship a Requirement for High School Graduation ONTP

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

This bill requires completion of an internship for high school graduation.

LD 751 An Act To Limit the Effect of Standardized Tests on Teacher Evaluations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD W	ONTP	

This bill provides that no more than 30% of an educator's total educator effectiveness rating may be based on the results of standardized tests.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 772 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Franco-Americans Regarding the Reporting of Franco-American Ethnicity Data ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOLDUC CLEVELAND	ONTP	

This bill requires the superintendent of each school administrative unit and the administrator of each private school to report to the Commissioner of Education the number of Franco-American students in their schools.

LD 773 Resolve, To Enhance the Study of Franco-American History in Schools ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to include Franco-American studies in the content standards and performance indicators for teaching social studies in Maine schools and provides a one-time appropriation of \$25,000 in fiscal year 2013-14.

LD 783 An Act To Change the Voting Requirements for the Withdrawal of a Municipality from a Regional School Unit CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MALABY BURNS	OTP-AM ONTP	

Under current law, until January 1, 2015, a municipality that wishes to withdraw from a regional school unit must approve that withdrawal by a majority vote, with the total number of votes cast at least equal to 50% of the total number of votes cast in that municipality for Governor in the last gubernatorial election. If the municipality is part of a school administrative district that was reformulated as a regional school unit pursuant to the school consolidation laws, a 2/3 approval is needed. Beginning January 1, 2015, any withdrawal must be approved by 2/3 of the voters, without any requirement regarding the total number of votes cast.

This bill allows a municipality to withdraw from a regional school unit by a majority vote and eliminates the requirement regarding the total number of votes cast. The bill requires that a facilitator to oversee negotiations be appointed if, after 90 days of its formation, the withdrawal committee that is selected by the municipality seeking to withdraw from the regional school unit fails to reach an agreement with the regional school unit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-552)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes the provision in the bill that requires that a facilitator to oversee negotiations must be appointed if, after 90 days of its formation, the withdrawal committee that is selected by the municipality seeking to withdraw from the regional school unit fails to reach an agreement with the regional school unit. The amendment also updates a section of law that was amended in Public Law 2013, chapter 167, Part A, section 2 to avoid a conflict. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-561)

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This amendment provides that if a municipality that is a member of a regional school unit withdraws from that regional school unit in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1466, subsection 9, any increase in administrative costs incurred by that municipality as a result of that withdrawal must be borne by that municipality.

This amendment was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-342)

This amendment incorporates the substance of House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-561). In addition, this amendment retains until July 1, 2014, the existing law governing the number of votes required to withdraw from a regional school unit. This amendment provides that beginning July 1, 2014 a municipality may withdraw from a regional school unit by majority vote and eliminates the requirement regarding the total number of votes cast. This amendment also replaces the appropriations and allocations section in Committee Amendment "A."

This bill was recommitted to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 791 An Act To Improve Equity for Economically Disadvantaged Students Seeking To Transfer to an Approved Private School or a Public School

PUBLIC 356

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEVIN JOHNSON C	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-414

This bill provides that, if the Commissioner of Education decides to allow a student transfer that was not approved by the superintendents of the affected school administrative units, the commissioner is required to provide a written description of the basis of the commissioner's determination that the transfer is in the best interest of the student and the State is required to reimburse the receiving school administrative unit's actual costs for implementing the transfer order. The bill also provides that the commissioner's decision may be appealed by one or both of the superintendents to the State Board of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-414)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill. It provides that a student may transfer from one school administrative unit to another under a so-called superintendents' agreement only if the receiving school administrative unit operates a public school that includes the grade level of the student whose parent requests the transfer.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-415)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the joint standing committee, strikes and replaces the bill to authorize the Commissioner of Education to reimburse families of economically disadvantaged students for tuition and transportation costs associated with attending approved private schools or public elementary or secondary schools in school administrative units other than those units in which those families reside.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 356 provides that a student may transfer from one school administrative unit to another under a so-called superintendents' agreement only if the receiving school administrative unit operates a public school that includes the grade level of the student whose parent requests the transfer.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 792 An Act To Ensure That Essential Programs and Services Targeted ONTP
Funding Follows the Secondary Student

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill provides that a school administrative unit sending a secondary school student to another public school or a private school must pay to the receiving school, in addition to tuition, per-pupil amounts for cocurricular and extracurricular activities and targeted funds for implementation of a standards-based system and technology resources.

LD 821 An Act To Allocate the Balance of Funds Not Expended by the Task P & S 8
Force on Franco-Americans EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT THIBODEAU	OTP-AM	H-50

This bill authorizes the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to retain \$300 in the Task Force on Franco-Americans funding account and expend those funds to offset the costs associated with the Legislature's Franco-American Day.

This bill requires the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to pay \$1,110.50 to the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, which represents the balance of funds contributed by outside sources to support the work of the Task Force on Franco-Americans, but not expended by the task force, no later than November 1, 2013.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-50)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 8 authorizes the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to retain \$300 in the Task Force on Franco-Americans funding account and expend those funds to offset the costs associated with the Legislature's Franco-American Day. It requires the Executive Director of the Legislative Council to pay \$1,110.50 to the Franco-American Center at the University of Maine, which represents the balance of funds contributed by outside sources to support the work of the Task Force on Franco-Americans, but not expended by the task force, no later than November 1, 2013.

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 8 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 14, 2013.

LD 822 An Act To Establish Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month PUBLIC 103

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-87

This bill establishes a special week each year in which schools are encouraged to invite Legislators to visit to promote increased knowledge among students of the legislative process and to improve citizen interest and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

participation in the legislative process.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-87)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to clarify the intent of the bill. This amendment establishes Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month to encourage teachers and school administrators to invite Legislators to visit school classrooms and meet with teachers, school administrators and students to promote increased knowledge among Legislators of prekindergarten to grade 12 public education programs.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 103 establishes Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month to encourage teachers and school administrators to invite Legislators to visit school classrooms and meet with teachers, school administrators and students to promote increased knowledge among Legislators of prekindergarten to grade 12 public education programs.

LD 823	An Act To Require Institutions of Higher Learning To Comply with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act	ONTP
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANDERSON MASON G	ONTP	

This bill requires all institutions of higher learning that receive state or federal funds to install on every door allowing access to a room in or area of its educational facilities to which a student or a member of the general public is permitted access a working automatic door opener operated by a wall-mounted electronic push-button device that meets standards adopted by the Maine Human Rights Commission.

LD 843	An Act To Promote the Financial Literacy of High School Students	PUBLIC 244
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT CAIN	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-348

Current law requires the Commissioner of Education to develop a program of technical assistance that promotes the importance of financial literacy and encourages school administrative units to implement an integrated model for instruction in personal finance that may be used in secondary schools as part of the instruction in social studies or mathematics. This bill amends the system of learning results to require each student to study and become proficient in personal finance, including instruction in purchasing, using credit, budgeting, saving and investing, banking, simple contracts, state and federal income taxes, personal insurance policies and renting or purchasing a home. The bill takes effect beginning with the 2014-2015 school year and requires all secondary schools to include the personal finance course as part of the mathematics instruction required to obtain a high school diploma.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-348)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to add course work in personal finance as part of the required subject of social studies and history that must be provided to all high school students as part of the state requirements for awarding a high school diploma.

The amendment also requires the Commissioner of Education to review the content standards and performance indicators for the content area of social studies, including student achievement of proficiency in personal finance, during the 2015-2016 school year as part of the commissioner's 5-year review cycle of the content standards and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

performance indicators required under the system of learning results.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-349)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to require the Commissioner of Education to review the content standards and performance indicators for the content area of social studies, including student achievement of proficiency in personal finance, during the 2015-2016 school year as part of the commissioner's 5-year review cycle of the content standards and performance indicators required under the system of learning results.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 244 adds course work in personal finance as part of the required subject of social studies and history that must be provided to all high school students as part of the state requirements for awarding a high school diploma. The law also requires the Commissioner of Education to review the content standards and performance indicators for the content area of social studies, including student achievement of proficiency in personal finance, during the 2015-2016 school year as part of the commissioner's 5-year review cycle of the content standards and performance indicators required under the system of learning results.

LD 862 An Act To Assist York County Community College ONTP

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

This bill provides ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$2,000,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2013-14 to the York County Community College.

LD 868 An Act To Expand Funding for Early Childhood Education ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LACHOWICZ STUCKEY	ONTP	

This bill amends the definitions of "elementary school" and "public preschool program" to include federally recognized Head Start agency programs in order to allow these programs to become eligible for federal E-rate funds.

LD 880 An Act To Change the Process for Student Transfers from an Alternative Organizational Structure ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS TURNER	ONTP	

This bill gives a local school committee of an alternative organizational structure the authority to approve student transfer requests.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 889 An Act To Adjust Funding Forwarded from School Districts to Charter Schools ONTP

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

This bill reduces the amount a school administrative unit in which a student who attends a public charter school resides must forward to that public charter school from 100% of the per-pupil allocation to 50% of the per-pupil allocation. It also provides that a school administrative unit is not required to send funds to a public charter school for certain students who were not enrolled in a public school before enrolling in a public charter school.

LD 905 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Examine School Security RESOLVE 76 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRIGGS MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-227

This resolve directs the Department of Education to develop a plan that makes recommendations to school administrative units for security measures that can be taken to improve the security of school buildings and instructional information that can be given to administrators, teachers, students, parents and community leaders concerning proper procedures and measures to take in response to and preparation for an emergency or natural disaster.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-227)

This amendment changes the title and replaces the resolve. This amendment directs the Department of Education to gather information regarding the preparedness of schools to implement required emergency management plans and the present condition of school facilities in terms of facility security in the event of an emergency. The department, in consultation with security experts, is directed to evaluate school preparedness and facility security and develop recommendations for prudent measures that may be taken to improve preparedness and facility security. The department must report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 15, 2014, and the committee is authorized to report out a bill relating to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill, as well as an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 76 directs the Department of Education to gather information regarding the preparedness of schools to implement required emergency management plans and the present condition of school facilities in terms of facility security in the event of an emergency. The department, in consultation with security experts, is directed to evaluate school preparedness and facility security and develop recommendations for prudent measures that may be taken to improve preparedness and facility security. The department must report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 15, 2014, and the committee is authorized to report out a bill relating to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Resolve 2013, chapter 76 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 10, 2013.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 906 An Act To Permit a School Administrative Unit Discretion Concerning CARRIED OVER
Participation of Students from Charter Schools in School
Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOONEN MILLETT	OTP-AM	

This bill allows a public charter school, at the discretion of the superintendent of the school administrative unit, to participate in school administrative unit-sponsored interscholastic and other activities and, at the discretion of the superintendent, a student of the public charter school to participate in a school's extracurricular activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-524)

This amendment provides that the superintendent of a school administrative unit may deny the request of a public charter school student to participate in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity only if the public charter school the student attends already provides that same activity or if the noncharter public school does not have the capacity to provide the student with the opportunity to participate in the activity. If approval for participation is withheld by the superintendent of the school administrative unit, the superintendent must provide a written explanation to the student or the student's parent or guardian stating the reason or reasons for the decision.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 944 Resolve, To Review the Impact of Unfunded Education Mandates and RESOLVE 74
Evaluate the Efficacy of Education Laws EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY POULIOT	OTP-AM	S-295

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a task force to review the effect of unfunded education mandates on school administrative units and career and technical regions in the State and to evaluate the efficacy of current education laws. The commissioner is directed to submit a report of the task force's findings and any suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 10, 2014. The committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-295)

This amendment strikes and replaces the resolve to direct the Department of Education to conduct an analysis of current education laws and unfunded or underfunded federal or state education mandates that have resulted in an adverse impact on school administrative units and career and technical regions in the State. The department's analysis must include a summary of recent research and surveys conducted by state officials and pursuant to legislative studies and education stakeholder groups and must include an up-to-date list that identifies unfunded or underfunded federal or state education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that have resulted in an adverse impact on public schools in the State.

The amendment also directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a review committee to examine the list of unfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements identified under the department's analysis and to establish, by consensus, a list of priority recommendations regarding the unfunded or

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

underfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that should be repealed or amended by the Legislature. The commissioner is directed to submit a report of the findings and conclusions of the review committee, including any suggested legislation to address the review committee's recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 10, 2014. The committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 74 directs the Department of Education to conduct an analysis of current education laws and unfunded or underfunded federal or state education mandates that have resulted in an adverse impact on school administrative units and career and technical regions in the State. The department's analysis must include a summary of recent research and surveys conducted by state officials and pursuant to legislative studies and education stakeholder groups and must include an up-to-date list that identifies unfunded or underfunded federal or state education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that have resulted in an adverse impact on public schools in the State.

The resolve also directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a review committee to examine the list of unfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements identified under the department's analysis and to establish, by consensus, a list of priority recommendations regarding the unfunded or underfunded education mandates, regulatory burdens and other education requirements that should be repealed or amended by the Legislature. The commissioner is directed to submit a report of the findings and conclusions of the review committee, including any suggested legislation to address the review committee's recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 10, 2014. The committee may submit a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Resolve 2013, chapter 74 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 3, 2013.

LD 959 An Act To Require That Seed Money Generated at an Individual ONTP
College of the Maine Community College System Be Returned to That
College for the Purpose of Enhancement

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R LANGLEY	ONTP	

This bill requires that seed money received as a result of the efforts of an individual college of the Maine Community College System be returned to and used to benefit that college.

LD 962 An Act To Increase Access to Higher Education ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN MILLETT	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill establishes a merit-based scholarship program for eligible students who graduate from high school in Maine and who are admitted to one of the institutions of the University of Maine System or the Maine Community College System. Students must have graduated in the top 25% of their classes in high school and family income must be less than \$30,000 a year. The scholarships are for the full or partial cost of tuition less any financial aid, awards or grants that reduce the level of tuition. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in college in

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

order to remain eligible for the scholarship. This scholarship program will be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine. The Finance Authority of Maine, which is given routine technical rule-making authority, may adjust these eligibility requirements to control expenditures or increase participation in the program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-133)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, modifies the Maine Merit Scholarship Program to replace income eligibility with eligibility based on expected family contribution. Expected family contribution is the standard that is used to determine financial need under various federal scholarship programs and under the Maine State Grant Program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 963 An Act To Expand Access to Early Postsecondary Education

**HELD BY
GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON LANGLEY	OTP-AM	H-545 S-328 GOODALL

This bill makes the following changes to the early postsecondary education programs statutes:

1. It creates a permanent Commission on Expanding Early Postsecondary Access for High School Students;
2. It clarifies that adult education students, home school students and students from private schools are eligible for state subsidy for postsecondary courses. It also clarifies that a student may be eligible if the parents, school administrative unit and postsecondary institution approve;
3. It requires high schools to grant academic credit for postsecondary courses rather than allowing discretion;
4. It requires postsecondary institutions to provide information to students on the transferability of academic credit between postsecondary institutions;
5. It requires the Department of Education to pay 50% of tuition for up to 12 credit hours in an academic year rather than only the first 3 credit hours up to a possible 6-credit-hour maximum;
6. It adds instructors of postsecondary education courses that are offered in secondary schools to the list of personnel that are subject to the fingerprinting and background check requirements; and
7. It requires career and technical education centers to serve as sites for the administration of assessment tests to determine college-level academic skills.

The bill also requires the Department of Education and the Commission on Expanding Early Postsecondary Access for High School Students to establish and maintain a single publicly accessible website with information on early postsecondary education programs and research as well as hyperlinks to those programs and the research.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-545)

This amendment makes several changes to the bill:

1. It adds the definition of "secondary school student" to the definitions in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A,

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

chapter 208-A in order for the definition to apply to the entire chapter and clarifies that "secondary school student" includes a student enrolled in an adult education program or participating in an approved home instruction program;

- 2. It requires that in order to be eligible to receive state subsidy for postsecondary courses, a secondary school student must be a Maine resident;
- 3. It limits the total number of secondary school students enrolled in a postsecondary school course to no more than 1/3 of the total number of students enrolled in the course;
- 4. It requires the school administrative unit to inform a student enrolled in a postsecondary school course of the extent to which high school credit will be granted toward graduation requirements as a result of successfully completing the course;
- 5. In current law, the department pays 50% of the in-state tuition for the first 3 credit hours taken each semester. The amendment doubles the amount to 6 credits;
- 6. It reduces the percentage of total funding available that can be used to support secondary school students enrolled in summer term courses; and
- 7. It increases the membership of the Commission on Expanding Early Postsecondary Access for High School Students from 19 to 20.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-328)

This amendment removes the Commission on Expanding Early Postsecondary Access for High School Students from the bill.

LD 994 An Act To Change the State's Share of Education Costs Including Teacher Retirement Costs ONTP

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

This bill provides that the total cost of teacher retirement, including the normal cost and the actual unfunded liability, must be funded through the state and local cost-sharing formula for funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12. The bill also changes the target for the state share of the total costs of education from 55% to 52%.

LD 995 An Act To Establish a Moratorium on the Approval and Operation of Virtual Public Charter Schools CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND MACDONALD W	OTP ONTP	

This emergency bill provides that the Maine Charter School Commission may not authorize the operation of any virtual public charter school until the Legislature enacts legislation that expressly authorizes the operation of virtual public charter schools in the State. The moratorium applies to the operations of any virtual public charter school that has not commenced operations as of the effective date of this legislation, regardless of whether the commission has approved, authorized or executed a contract for the virtual public charter school.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

The bill amends the definition of "virtual public charter school" to specify that virtual public charter schools provide education services through an online learning program that enrolls students on a part-time basis in grades 9 to 12. The bill also requires the Maine Charter School Commission to review the law and the virtual public charter school models that have been implemented in other states and develop a virtual public charter school model that will best serve the learning needs of students. The virtual public charter school model developed must apply only to part-time students in grades 9 to 12 and must place emphasis on blended learning models for high school students.

The Maine Charter School Commission is directed to report its findings, recommendations and any necessary implementing legislation with respect to the authorization or operation of virtual public charter schools to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than December 1, 2013 and authorizes the joint standing committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature related to the recommendations included in this report.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

**LD 1002 An Act Regarding the Required Local Contribution in the School
Funding Formula**

**LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW**

Sponsor(s)

CAREY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill modifies the provision of the essential programs and services school funding formula that provides that the state share of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 is limited to the same proportion as the local school administrative unit raises of its required contribution to the total cost of education. The bill specifies that this limitation does not apply if a majority of the residents within that school administrative unit reside in municipalities eligible to receive funds from the Disproportionate Tax Burden Fund established under the State's municipal revenue sharing program.

**LD 1003 Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study Accessibility and
Affordability of Higher Education**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

TREAT
CAIN

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This resolve establishes the Commission To Study Accessibility and Affordability of Higher Education.

**LD 1019 An Act To Protect the State's Property Rights in Maine State Museum
Research**

**PUBLIC 205
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

KESCHL
KATZ

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

H-188

This bill exempts from the Freedom of Access Act historical research that includes an individual's personally identifiable information such as medical, psychiatric, employment, counseling or law enforcement records or information directly related to that individual's parent or child. The bill also exempts from the Freedom of Access

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Act, unless authorized by the Maine State Museum's director, museum draft research, publications and exhibit materials that are not yet completed and publicly presented.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-188)

This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment:

- 1. Provides that draft research, publications and exhibit materials of the Maine State Museum are confidential and not public records until publication or presentation to the public or the Museum Director authorizes earlier release; and
- 2. Provides that personal information obtained by the Maine State Museum in the course of a historical research project is confidential and not a public record until the individual authorizes its release or dies. It also provides that the Museum Director may, at the request of the individual, designate that the information remain confidential for up to 25 years after the death of the individual in order to protect the privacy of the individual or the privacy of the parent or child of the individual.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 205:

- 1. Provides that draft research, publications and exhibit materials of the Maine State Museum are confidential and not public records until publication or presentation to the public or the Museum Director authorizes earlier release; and
- 2. Provides that personal information obtained by the Maine State Museum in the course of a historical research project is confidential and not a public record until the individual authorizes its release or dies. It also provides that the Museum Director may, at the request of the individual, designate that the information remain confidential for up to 25 years after the death of the individual in order to protect the privacy of the individual or the privacy of the parent or child of the individual.

Public Law, chapter 205 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 15, 2013.

**LD 1027 An Act To Provide an Improved Process for Voter Approval of
Withdrawal from a Regional School Unit**

**LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW**

Sponsor(s)

PARRY
LANGLEY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill amends the laws concerning withdrawal of a municipality from a regional school unit by:

- 1. Directing the Commissioner of Education to determine the terms of a withdrawal agreement if a withdrawal committee cannot reach agreement within 150 days after formation of the committee; and
- 2. Until January 1, 2015, allowing a revote at any time for approval of a withdrawal agreement if the agreement was defeated upon a municipal vote but received at least 45% of the votes cast.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1036 An Act To Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON CRAVEN	OTP-AM ONTP	

This bill amends the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program to allow the Finance Authority of Maine to provide debt relief directly to the applicant or to make loan repayments to the lender. This bill also increases the number of applicants who may be eligible for loan relief from 3 applicants to 40 applicants per year, decreases the maximum amount of debt relief to \$1,000 and provides an ongoing appropriation of \$20,000 per year.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-111)

This amendment is the majority report and clarifies that the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program may provide repayments in the amount of up to \$1,000 for each applicant each year.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 1055 An Act To Create a Maine Financial Education Portal

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT LANGLEY	ONTP	

This bill expands the financial literacy program operated by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Finance Authority of Maine, the Office of Securities within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Jobs for Maine's Graduates, organizations representing banks, credit unions and financial professionals and other interested organizations promoting personal finance initiatives, to require the development and maintenance of a publicly accessible website that serves as a portal to program information on financial literacy resources and services statewide.

LD 1056 An Act To Require Local Voter Approval for Charter Schools

ONTP

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

This bill requires that any approval of an application to establish a public charter school by the Maine Charter School Commission after the effective date of this legislation does not take effect unless submitted to and approved by the voters in an area wide referendum that includes the entire community proposed to be served by the public charter school, including all municipalities in which the public charter school would be authorized to engage in student recruitment.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1057 An Act Related to Public Funding of Charter Schools

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KUSIAK	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-529

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to amend several funding requirements for public charter schools established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 112. The bill proposes that:

1. The Department of Education establish a new program budget account for funding the operation of public charter schools. Under current law, local school administrative units must provide funding for students who reside within the school administrative unit but who enroll in a public charter school. This bill proposes to require that the Commissioner of Education recommend an annual amount of state funding for students enrolled in public charter schools, but that funding that supports student enrollment or the operation of public charter schools may not come from state or local resources allocated through the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program;
2. The amount of state funding provided by the Department of Education for a student enrolled in a public charter school may not exceed the combined level of federal, state and local per-pupil funding that would have been provided for the student had the student remained in attendance in the student's local school. Public charter schools may not discriminate among potential students who wish to attend the school based upon the combined level of federal, state and local per-pupil funding that would follow the student from the student's sending school administrative unit;
3. Virtual public charter schools may not receive state or local funding, except that state and local resources allocated through the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program must be provided by the sending school administrative unit to the virtual public charter school for a student who experiences education disruption as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5161, subsection 9 and who enrolls in a virtual public charter school; and
4. School administrative units not be responsible for the transportation costs for a student who resides within the school administrative unit but who enrolls in a public charter school, and school administrative units not be responsible for providing transportation for students who are enrolled in a public charter school and who also attend a career and technical education program that is supported by public funds raised by the school administrative unit. Public charter school students may access transportation to the career and technical education program only from a noncharter public secondary school or another location where career and technical education students gather to access transportation to the career and technical education program.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-529)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, establishes provisions to fund public charter schools that are authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission beginning in fiscal year 2014-15. The amendment establishes provisions that calculate the total allocation of funds to be provided under the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program for public charter schools that are authorized by the commission.

The amendment also provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2014-15, the Commissioner of Education's recommendations for funding levels under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act must include funding level computations for the total allocation of funds to public charter schools authorized by the commission. The amendment also provides that the commissioner may expend and disburse funds for the public charter schools authorized by the commission in accordance with provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 112

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

and Title 20-A, section 15683-B.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-530)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, establishes provisions to fund public charter schools that are authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission beginning in fiscal year 2014-15. The amendment establishes provisions that calculate the total allocation of funds to be provided under the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program for public charter schools that are authorized by the commission.

The amendment also provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2014-15, the Commissioner of Education's recommendations for funding levels under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act must include funding level computations for the total allocation of funds to public charter schools authorized by the commission in accordance with provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15683-B.

LD 1083 *Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop a Process To Provide Alternative Pathways To Learning for Certain High School Students* ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON G	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to review the issues presented when secondary school students, after repeated school interventions and individualized, targeted efforts, continue to be habitually disruptive in the classroom. The resolve directs the commissioner to examine the impact of the presence of such students on the rest of the classroom and the school community and develop a process to identify secondary school students who, because of the students' recurring discipline issues, might benefit from exemption from the laws governing compulsory school attendance. The resolve directs the commissioner to identify potential options for alternative pathways to successful learning for such students, including but not limited to trade apprenticeships, internships and independent learning leading to high school equivalency certification, and examine ways to ensure that information regarding these alternative pathways is made available to such students.

LD 1093 *An Act To Clarify the Criteria of the Health Professions Loan Program as It Affects Physicians Practicing Neurology-psychiatry* VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN GRAHAM	OTP-AM	S-119

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The purpose of this bill is to clarify the criteria in the Health Professions Loan Program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine for designating underserved areas and populations and the criteria for designating eligibility of specialty physicians to practice in underserved areas to include neurologists-psychiatrists.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-119)

This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment specifies that neurology-psychiatry is an underserved specialty for purposes of loan forgiveness under the Health Professions Loan Program. This amendment makes the provision retroactive to January 1, 2012.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 1096 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Students Experiencing
Education Disruption**

**HELD BY
GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY	OTP-AM	S-243 S-347 HILL

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing students who experience an education disruption.

1. It redefines “education disruption” to eliminate disruption caused by homelessness or foster care and adds enrollment in three or more schools or educational programs in a single school year.
2. It modifies the standards for diplomas issued by the Department of Education to students who experience education disruption to require achievement of the content standards of the system of learning results only, eliminating the requirement the student meet any other standards that are set forth in the school work recognition plan or specified by the school attended by the student.
3. It modifies the process by which diplomas are issued by the Department of Education to provide that the student applies to the commissioner and supplies evidence of achievement, that the commissioner forms a review team to review the evidence and make recommendations to the commissioner and the commissioner then makes the final determination.
4. It modifies the law governing school work recognition plans. It designates a responsible school for preparing the school work recognition plan and certain other materials. It removes a provision allowing the plan to be developed through email or teleconferencing, a provision providing that a plan is not required if an existing plan such as an individualized education plan or a transition plan addresses school completion, and the requirement that the plan include any local diploma requirements beyond state learning results. It establishes the process and responsibility for school work recognition plans in cases where the disruption is caused by enrollment in 3 or more schools or educational programs in a single school year.

This bill also modifies the law governing excusable absences from compulsory attendance to include the new definition of “education disruption”, thus eliminating from excusable absences those resulting from disruptions caused by homelessness or foster care and disruptions from an interim placement that results in an absence of less than 10 days.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-243)

This amendment:

1. Removes the provision of the bill that alters the law governing compulsory attendance and excused absences, leaving in place the current law;
2. Amends the bill's definition of "education disruption" to include homelessness and foster care placement and identifies the school in which the student is enrolled or entitled to enroll as the responsible school for developing a school work recognition plan; and
3. Repeals a provision of law that is replaced by new provisions included in the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-347)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1098 An Act To Encourage Teacher Input in Education Policy

**LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK GILBERT		

This bill provides that teacher planning and preparation periods, class sizes and staffing levels are not educational policies that are not subject to collective bargaining.

**LD 1100 An Act To Update and Revise the Laws Governing the Maine Arts
Commission**

PUBLIC 181

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT MAKER	OTP-AM	S-98

This bill modifies laws governing the Maine Arts Commission (MAC) as follows.

1. It removes language providing for the State Treasurer to the invest, in accordance with laws governing trust funds, any funds given to the MAC as endowment funds; it provides that the Director of the MAC, with the approval of the commission, may expend endowment principal and interest to further the educational objectives of the MAC's programs.
2. It repeals the Maine Student Artist Awards Program, the arts outreach program and the law establishing the Arts in Education Program.
3. It rewrites the general duties of the MAC under the Arts in Education subchapter to direct the MAC to provide leadership in developing and sustaining an agenda for arts education throughout the State in partnership with federal, state and local entities; lead efforts to make the arts a part of the core education for all students from kindergarten to grade 12 and to increase arts opportunities outside the school setting; conduct research on arts education for elementary and secondary schools; and operate arts education and outreach programs to combine the presentation of art with arts education.

It leaves in place the requirement that the MAC work with schools to identify common educational goals. It also repeals the following duties: to provide funding to 1/3 of the schools in the State each year on a 3-year rotating basis; to use professional artists in developing a process for achieving learning results; to invite school systems, through their superintendents, to participate in the program; to provide training, information and seed money to each local arts education committee composed of school personnel and residents of the school district to develop a 3-year plan to increase arts education opportunities; and to promote artist residencies, professional development for teachers, curriculum development and advocacy and information projects.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-98)

This amendment:

1. Retains current law, proposed to be repealed by the bill, that provides that funds, if given to the Maine Arts Commission as an endowment, must be invested by the Treasurer of State according to the laws governing the investment of trust funds. It also provides that endowment funds may be used only for the purposes for which the endowment is established in accordance with the intent of the donor; and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

2. Retains current law that requires the Maine Arts Commission to establish the Arts in Education Program, but changes its name to the Arts Education Program and removes unnecessary descriptive language: this program is described in a section of law not amended by the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 181 modifies laws governing the Maine Arts Commission (MAC) as follows.

It provides that the Director of the MAC, with the approval of the commission, may expend endowment principal and interest to further the educational objectives of the MAC's programs as long as the endowment funds are used only for the purposes for which the endowment is established in accordance with the intent of the donor.

It repeals the Maine Student Artist Awards Program and the MAC's arts outreach program. It retains current law that requires the MAC to establish the Arts in Education Program, but changes its name to the Arts Education Program and removes unnecessary descriptive language.

It rewrites the general duties of the MAC under the Arts in Education subchapter to direct the MAC to provide leadership in developing and sustaining an agenda for arts education throughout the State in partnership with federal, state and local entities; lead efforts to make the arts a part of the core education for all students from kindergarten to grade 12 and to increase arts opportunities outside the school setting; conduct research on arts education for elementary and secondary schools; and operate arts education and outreach programs to combine the presentation of art with arts education.

It leaves in place the requirement that the MAC work with schools to identify common educational goals. It also repeals the following duties: to provide funding to 1/3 of the schools in the State each year on a 3-year rotating basis; to use professional artists in developing a process for achieving learning results; to invite school systems, through their superintendents, to participate in the program; to provide training, information and seed money to each local arts education committee composed of school personnel and residents of the school district to develop a 3-year plan to increase arts education opportunities; and to promote artist residencies, professional development for teachers, curriculum development and advocacy and information projects.

LD 1106 An Act To Develop a Grant Program To Establish a Teacher-led School Model

PUBLIC 303

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOONEN LANGLEY	OTP	

This bill provides for the creation, submission, review and approval of innovation plans to establish teacher-led schools. The bill allows one or more public schools within a school administrative unit to initiate the creation of an innovation plan for the creation and operation of a teacher-led school for submission to its school board. The bill also permits a school board to initiate and collaborate with one or more of the public schools it operates to create an innovation plan. The bill provides that a school board may obtain waivers of laws, rules and local policy requirements from the Commissioner of Education that are considered necessary for a teacher-led school to implement an innovation plan. The bill also allows for grants from the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services for the costs associated with establishing a teacher-led school.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 303 provides for the creation, submission, review and approval of innovation plans to establish teacher-led schools. The law allows one or more public schools within a school administrative unit to initiate the creation of an innovation plan for the creation and operation of a teacher-led school for submission to its

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

school board. The law also permits a school board to initiate and collaborate with one or more of the public schools it operates to create an innovation plan. The law provides that a school board may obtain waivers of laws, rules and local policy requirements from the Commissioner of Education that are considered necessary for a teacher-led school to implement an innovation plan. The law also allows for grants from the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services for the costs associated with establishing a teacher-led school.

LD 1123 An Act To Allow the Town of Bancroft To Withdraw from Its Regional School Unit without Penalty LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONG		

This bill exempts the Town of Bancroft from school reorganization requirements and associated penalties for withdrawal from its regional school unit because the Town of Bancroft has filed legislation with the Legislature for approval to deorganize.

LD 1128 An Act To Provide for Greater Public Input and Local Control in the Chartering of Public Schools VETO SUSTAINED

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND MCCABE	OTP-AM OTP-AM	S-227

This bill requires that any person, group or organization, prior to filing an application for a public charter school with the Maine Charter School Commission, must hold at least 3 public hearings in the region that would be affected by the operation of the public charter school. The organizers must also meet the following requirements:

1. Provide the public with the best estimates possible regarding the impact on funding, student enrollment, courses and teachers in both the public schools and the proposed public charter school;
2. Announce to the persons who attend a public hearing that they have the right to provide the Maine Charter School Commission with their opinions and concerns about the proposed plan to operate a public charter school in the region in which they reside;
3. Hold a vote to determine if the persons who attend a public hearing are in favor of the organizers' proposed plan to operate a public charter school in the region in which the persons reside; and
4. Provide the Maine Charter School Commission with an objective summary of the public comments presented at each public hearing, the discussions that occurred between organizers and the persons who attended the public hearings and the result of the vote held at the public hearings.

The bill provides that the Maine Charter School Commission may accept an application for a public charter school only if the organizers of the proposed public charter school meet each of the requirements and if the majority of the persons that attended the public hearings held by the organizers voted in favor of the proposed plan to operate a public charter school in the region.

Finally, the bill requires the Commissioner of Education to review the current funding laws and rules for public charter schools and to submit proposed legislation that provides options for funding public charter schools, including but not limited to establishing a new General Fund program account to pay for public charter schools and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

establishing an adjustment to the state share of the total allocation or authorizing a miscellaneous cost for the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program as set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B so that the State allocates funds for operating public charter schools in a manner that results in all municipalities sharing the costs of public charter schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-227)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, amends the bill to provide that any person, group or organization, prior to filing an application for a public charter school with the Maine Charter School Commission, must hold at least one public hearing in the region that would be affected by the operation of the public charter school. The amendment strikes the provision in the bill that would have required organizers to hold a vote to determine if the persons who attend a public hearing are in favor of the organizers' proposed plan to operate a public charter school in the region. In addition to the remaining public hearing requirements included in the bill that must be met by organizers before the commission may accept the organizers' applications, the organizers must also meet the following requirements:

1. Send an invitation to each public hearing held by the organizers to the school board members of each of the school administrative units located in the catchment area that would be affected by the operation of the public charter school;
2. Invite written feedback from the local school boards located in the catchment area that would be affected by the operation of the public charter school, including the results of a nonbinding advisory vote held by the local school board on the question of whether the local school board members favor the organizers' proposed plan to operate a public charter school in the region; and
3. Provide the commission with an objective summary of the public comments presented at each public hearing, the discussions that occurred between the organizers and the persons who attended the public hearings, the feedback from the local school boards located in the catchment area that would be affected by the operation of the public charter school and the result of the nonbinding advisory votes held by local school boards located in the catchment area to determine if the local school board members are in favor of the organizers' proposed plan to operate a public charter school in the region. The amendment also strikes the provision in the bill that requires the Commissioner of Education to review the current funding laws and rules for public charter schools and to submit proposed legislation that provides options for funding public charter schools.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-228)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes the bill title and the bill and replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Maine Charter School Commission to review the provisions in statutes and rules related to the opportunities for public input in the public charter school application process, including the commission's procedures for reviewing and evaluating public charter school applications. The amendment provides that, prior to issuing a request for proposals after the effective date of this resolve, the commission must make changes that provide for additional opportunities for public input in the public charter school application process and the commission's procedures for reviewing and evaluating public charter school applications.

LD 1129 An Act To Promote Innovation in Public Schools

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND MAKER	OTP-AM	S-291 H-548 MACDONALD W

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to require the Department of Education to establish a website by the spring of 2013 where various educational and teaching models can be reviewed by school districts and to develop an annual summer seminar where school districts can learn about different education and teaching models.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-291)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill with a resolve that provides for the implementation of standards-based learning models across the State as a means to significantly improve the success rate of Maine students and to foster education opportunities and growth. The amendment directs the Department of Education to establish a website to post exemplary models and best practices of deeper learning educational models and resources that can enable school administrative units to transition to a standards-based system of education that includes proficiency-based standards for awarding a high school diploma. In addition, the Department of Education is required to hold a statewide conference no later than June 20, 2014 as a means of educating the entire State about standards-based or deeper learning models, as well as a series of teleconferences between October 20, 2013 and June 20, 2014 that will provide support for school systems throughout the State as they implement standards-based learning or deeper learning models.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-548)

This amendment requires the Commissioner of Education to hold an annual conference for school board members, superintendents, school administrators, educators and others, in order to share best practices and showcase innovative approaches to teaching and learning and post materials from the conference on the department's publicly accessible website. The Department of Education is required to hold the statewide conferences from 2014 to 2018 about standards-based or deeper learning models. The amendment also directs the Department of Education to post on its publicly accessible website exemplary models and best practices of deeper learning educational models and resources that can enable school administrative units to transition to a standards-based system of education that includes proficiency-based standards for awarding a high school diploma. In addition, the department is required to hold a series of teleconferences between October 20, 2013 and June 20, 2014 that will provide support for school systems throughout the State as they implement standards-based learning or deeper learning models.

LD 1130 An Act To Create a Virtual School Managed by the State

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN MACDONALD W	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to establish a state-managed virtual school, which would:

1. Be designed to allow the State to maintain direct oversight over and apply stringent quality controls to the management of the school;
2. Use current in-state talent and, to the extent possible, rely on content prepared and shared by teachers within the State;
3. Be designed to best deliver services to students and schools in the most cost-efficient manner; and
4. Focus on maximizing the delivery of course content and material to rural schools throughout the State.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1131 An Act To Improve Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers and Other Public School Employees

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN NELSON	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill establishes the Fund for Professional Development in Education with an appropriation of \$2,000,000 to support up to 50% of the cost of up to an additional 10 days annually of professional development for teachers and other education professionals. The fund is administered by the Commissioner of Education, who must approve funding if a school administrative unit demonstrates that the professional development for which funding is requested will improve teaching or educational services provided to students, the school administrative unit will provide at least 50% of the funding and the school administrative unit has entered into an agreement with the teachers regarding the timing and components of the professional development activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-192)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that before a school administrative unit enters into an agreement with teachers and other education professionals regarding the professional development activities for which funding is sought from the Commissioner of Education, the school administrative unit must consult with teachers and other education professionals regarding their needs and preferences for the professional development activities that will improve teaching and educational services provided to students.

LD 1132 An Act To Achieve Economic Growth by Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education and To Meet Workforce Needs

PUBLIC 410

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN NELSON	OTP-AM	S-207 S-366 HILL

This bill authorizes and provides funding for the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council to establish the office of executive director to provide leadership and management expertise that will assist the council in achieving its goals.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-207)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to make the following changes to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council.

1. Like the bill, it authorizes the council to establish the office of executive director to provide leadership and management expertise to assist the council in meeting its goals, but further allows the council to enter into an agreement, to the extent that public and private funds are available, to contract with an executive director.
2. It adds the Maine Maritime Academy to the entities that jointly provide staff support to the council.
3. It authorizes the council to receive and expend funds from public and private sources to carry out the council's duties.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

4. It reduces the General Fund appropriation from \$250,000 to \$50,000 in each year of the biennium and provides that funds do not lapse but are carried forward for the purposes of the council.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-366)

This amendment strikes the appropriations and allocations section in Committee Amendment "A" and replaces it with one-time funds for the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council to carry out the duties of the council and to establish the office of executive director.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 410 authorizes the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council to establish the office of executive director to provide leadership and management expertise that will assist the council in achieving its goals. The law accomplishes the following:

1. It allows the council to enter into an agreement, to the extent that public and private funds are available, to contract with an executive director;
2. It adds the Maine Maritime Academy to the entities that jointly provide staff support to the council;
3. It authorizes the council to receive and expend funds from public and private sources to carry out the council's duties; and
4. It provides one-time funding, in the amount of \$5,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$50,000 in fiscal year 2014-15, to the council to carry out the duties of the council and to establish the office of executive director.

LD 1143 An Act To Develop Young Readers

**DIED IN
CONCURRENCE**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON ALFOND	OTP-AM ONTP	H-381 S-350 HILL

The purpose of this bill is to facilitate the development of young readers by:

1. Requiring the Commissioner of Education to establish a program to encourage the early exposure of infants and children in the State to books and reading. The bill directs the commissioner to coordinate the Department of Education's efforts with those of any other agency of government, individual, group, foundation or corporation that has established a program to encourage early reading and authorizes the acceptance of any funds for these purposes from any other agency of government, individual, group, foundation or corporation; and
2. Requiring that beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, school units that offer kindergarten programs provide full-day kindergarten programs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-381)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, changes the title of the bill and strikes the section of the bill that directs the Commissioner of Education to establish and coordinate an early reader program.

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

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1144 An Act To Further Ensure Effective Teaching and School Leadership

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KUSIAK	OTP-AM ONTP	H-254

This bill makes several changes related to the implementation of the performance evaluation and professional growth system provisions established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 508.

1. It removes 2 of the data elements that the Department of Education is required to collect in order to evaluate the performance of educator preparation programs.
2. It requires the Department of Education to amend or adopt rules regarding the implementation procedures related to the qualifications and preparation that trained evaluators must have in order to participate in the performance evaluation of teachers and school principals.
3. It amends the provisions requiring targeted funds for implementing the performance evaluation and professional growth systems for teachers and principals to require that, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, the Commissioner of Education provide state funding, outside of the funding provided to school administrative units through the general purpose aid for local schools program, to implement performance evaluation and professional growth systems for teachers and principals.
4. It provides that school administrative units are not required to implement the performance evaluation and professional growth systems for teachers and principals until the Legislature funds the state share of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 at the 55% level required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. It also provides that targeted educator evaluation funds may be provided only if general purpose aid for local schools exceeds the required 55% state share.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-254)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, makes 2 changes to the bill related to the performance evaluation and professional growth system provisions established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 508:

1. It removes the provision in the bill that provides that school administrative units would not be required to implement the performance evaluation and professional growth systems for teachers and principals until the Legislature funds the state share of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 at the 55% level required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; and
2. It removes the provision in the bill that provides that targeted educator evaluation funds would be provided only if general purpose aid for local schools exceeds the required 55% state share.

LD 1160 An Act To Reduce Obesity among Schoolchildren

**DIED BETWEEN
HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT MACDONALD W	OTP-AM ONTP	S-255

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill requires a student from kindergarten to grade 5 to participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of daily physical activity at school. A physical activity period may not be denied as punishment or discipline. The bill does not prohibit a teacher from restricting a student's participation in physical activity if that participation presents a danger to the student or to others or if the restriction is consistent with the student's individual education plan. A teacher may provide an alternative physical activity for a student behaving inappropriately during a physical activity period. The bill prohibits a public school from using food as a reward or punishment for a student's behavior or performance in kindergarten to grade 12.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-81)

This amendment, which is the majority report, provides that the prohibition on the use of food as a reward or punishment for behavior or performance of a student does not apply if such use is consistent with the student's individual education plan. This amendment also adds a mandate preamble to the bill.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-121)

This amendment strikes the provisions in the bill and Committee Amendment "A" regarding the use of food as a reward or punishment.

Committee of Conference Amendment "A" (S-255)

This committee of conference amendment incorporates the changes made by Committee Amendment "A" and Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" and makes a change to the requirement that students participate in daily physical activity. It makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It adds a mandate preamble.
2. It requires students from kindergarten to grade 5 to participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of daily physical activity on average at school. The bill requires these students to participate in a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity at school every day.
3. It strikes the provisions regarding the use of food as a reward or punishment.

LD 1184 **Resolve, Requiring Rulemaking Regarding Special Education Requirements and Review of School Administrative Units That Do Not Operate Any Schools**

RESOLVE 70

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	H-399

This bill provides that the responsibility for compliance with special education requirements for children with disabilities resides with the school the student attends if the school administrative unit in which the student resides does not own, lease or otherwise operate any schools.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-399)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Education to amend its rules governing special education to establish a process for the department to review sending school units with respect to children with disabilities who reside within the sending school unit who attend a receiving school.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 70 directs the Department of Education to amend its rules governing special education to

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

establish a process for the department to review sending school units with respect to children with disabilities who reside within the sending school unit who attend a receiving school.

LD 1185 An Act To Enhance Efforts To Use Locally Produced Food in Schools

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCABE ALFOND	OTP-AM	

This bill requires a school administrative unit to report on its use of local foods in its school meal programs. It requires the Department of Education to make the reporting available to the public and to publish a list of schools that meet benchmarks for increasing the use of local foods. It also requires the Department of Education to establish rules to implement the provisions.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-233)

This amendment provides that school administrative units must determine and report at least annually the percentage of food purchased, grown or otherwise acquired for use in its elementary schools and secondary schools that is grown, raised or caught in the State as well as the percentage of dairy products purchased for use in its elementary schools and secondary schools that is produced in the State. It also adds an effective date of July 1, 2014.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 1231 An Act To Amend the Compulsory School Attendance Laws

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT CAIN	OTP-AM ONTP	H-432

This bill amends the laws related to compulsory school attendance in order to improve the enforcement of federal and state requirements pertaining to compulsory school attendance in the State. The bill:

1. Changes the law regarding compulsory school age by:
 - A. Providing that a child who enrolls in a public day school before the child is 7 years of age is required to remain in attendance at a public day school or at an equivalent instruction alternative to attendance at a public day school in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 5001-A, subsection 3; and
 - B. Changing the age when a child may stop attending school from 17 to 18 years of age;
2. Directs the Commissioner of Education to provide guidance to school boards, superintendents, principals and other school officials pertaining to the enforcement of the compulsory school attendance laws that require children to be enrolled from 7 years of age to 18 years of age in a public school or an equivalent instruction alternative. The enforcement guidance provided must clarify that a child who enrolls in a school administrative unit before the child is 7 years of age as allowed under Title 20-A, section 5201, subsection 2, paragraph B is required to remain in attendance at a public school or at an equivalent instruction alternative in accordance with Title 20-A, section

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

5001-A; and

3. Directs the Commissioner of Education to provide guidance to school boards, superintendents, principals and other school officials regarding enforcement of federal and state laws related to student eligibility for certain federal and state welfare benefits and supplemental security income for children with disabilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-432)

This amendment, which is the majority report for the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill to change the compulsory school attendance laws to provide that a child who enrolls in a public day school before the child is 7 years of age is required to remain in attendance at a public day school or at an equivalent instruction alternative to attendance at a public day school unless the child's parent provides school officials with a written notice of intent to withdraw the child from school and a written assurance that the child will be enrolled in a school before the child reaches 7 years of age.

LD 1235 An Act Regarding School Construction

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND MACDONALD W	OTP-AM	S-239 S-312 MILLETT

This bill requires the State Board of Education to amend its rules regarding major capital school construction projects to allow a school administrative unit to begin the school construction planning process without being penalized on any of the Department of Education's school construction priority lists.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-239)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the State Board of Education to adopt or amend the rules regarding major capital school construction projects to allow the top 20 school administrative units in the Department of Education's rating system used to develop any priority lists for funding school construction projects to begin the school construction planning process without being penalized under the rating system. The bill requires this without any limit. The amendment also strikes outdated provisions from the rule-making statute.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-312)

This amendment:

1. Changes from 20 to 12 the number of school administrative units that may begin the school construction preplanning process without being penalized under the Department of Education's rating system;
2. Specifies that "school construction preplanning process" includes working with the department and the State Board of Education on a collaborative process with interested stakeholders and community members to develop a unified vision for the school construction project;
3. Specifies that costs associated with the development of conceptual drawings by an architect may be reimbursable as a project cost, consistent with department rules, for projects approved by the department; and
4. Provides that a school administrative unit that engages in school construction preplanning may not be accorded any preference in the development by the department of any future priority lists for funding school construction projects.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1241 An Act To Protect School Athletes from Head Injuries

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAJOIE CRAVEN	ONTP	

This bill requires all students participating in field hockey, lacrosse, snowboarding or skiing as part of an activity of an elementary or secondary school, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, to wear protective headgear. This bill also requires the Commissioner of Education to convene a working group to study the injuries that occur to students participating in field hockey and lacrosse and determine measures, including the use of protective equipment, that may be taken to avoid injuries. The working group is required to report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, which may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

LD 1261 An Act To Improve Access for Maine Students to Postsecondary Education

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N MILLETT	ONTP	

This bill provides a full tuition waiver at any campus of the Maine Community College System or the University of Maine System for Maine high school students who graduate in the top 10% of their graduating class and who meet financial need qualifications.

LD 1290 An Act To Encourage High School Students To Complete Community Service

PUBLIC 176

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE VALENTINO	OTP-AM ONTP	H-148

This bill requires a high school student to complete community service as specified by the high school attended by the student in order to graduate.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-148)

This amendment replaces the bill. Current law provides that high school students must be allowed to demonstrate achievement of diploma standards by presenting multiple types of evidence. This amendment adds community service to the multiple types of evidence.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 176 modifies a provision of law that provides that high school students must be allowed to demonstrate achievement of diploma standards by presenting multiple types of evidence. This law adds community service to the multiple types of evidence.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1291 An Act Regarding the Effect on Collective Bargaining Agreements of Failure To Validate a School Budget

DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NEWENDYKE		

This bill was acted upon without reference to committee.

This bill provides that a public employer may not enter into a collective bargaining agreement that covers teachers employed by a school administrative unit unless the voters of the school administrative unit have approved the collective bargaining agreement as part of the process for approval of the budget for the school administrative unit.

LD 1300 An Act To Promote and Expand Awareness of the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit

PUBLIC 417

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRANT ALFOND	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-238

This bill modifies the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program. The bill:

1. Amends the educational opportunity tax credit for education loans. Under current law the credit is refundable if the student (opportunity program participant) obtains an associate degree or bachelor's degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). Under the bill, the STEM limitation is removed for participants who receive an associate degree. The bill also makes the credit refundable for employers; currently the credit is refundable only for the student participant;
2. Requires the Department of Education to contract with a private nonprofit corporation in the amount of at least \$20,000 annually to market the program throughout the State, targeting high schools, postsecondary educational institutions and organizations of parents, teachers and other relevant audiences;
3. Requires the Department of Education annually to notify superintendents of schools about the program and requires the superintendents to publicize the availability of the program among parents, students and school staff;
4. Requires the Department of Labor to require that state and local workforce investment boards and the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program include in their plans and programs efforts to promote and increase awareness of the program; and
5. Requires the University of Maine, Maine Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy to provide information about the program as part of, but not limited to, federally required entrance and exit interviews of student and directs the Department of Education to encourage all other postsecondary educational institutions in the State to do same.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-238)

This amendment, which is the majority report, removes the provisions of the bill that modify the educational opportunity tax credit and modifies the provisions of the bill regarding promotion of the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program. The amendment:

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

1. Requires the Department of Education to notify superintendents annually about the program and encourage the superintendents to publicize the availability of the program among students, parents and school staff;
2. Retains the requirement in the bill that the Department of Labor require that publicly funded workforce development programs, including state and local workforce investment boards and the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program, include within their plans and programs efforts to promote and increase awareness of the program;
3. Directs the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy to make reasonable efforts to inform students about the program;
4. Directs the Finance Authority of Maine, instead of the Department of Education as in the bill, to contract with a private nonprofit corporation in the amount of at least \$20,000 annually to market the program throughout the State; and
5. Adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-239)

This amendment, which is the minority report, removes the provisions of the bill that modify the educational opportunity tax credit and modifies the provisions of the bill regarding promotion of the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program. The amendment requires the Department of Education, the Department of Labor and the Finance Authority of Maine to collaborate with postsecondary educational institutions, school superintendents and others to develop and implement efforts to promote and publicize the program. If, as a result of such collaboration, it is determined that it would be advantageous for the State to contract with a private nonprofit corporation to market the program, the Finance Authority of Maine may seek appropriate funding for such a contract and, upon receipt of sufficient funding, may contract with a private nonprofit corporation to market the program throughout the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 417 modifies the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program. Public Law 2013, chapter 417:

1. Requires the Department of Education to notify superintendents annually about the program and encourage the superintendents to publicize the availability of the program among students, parents and school staff;
2. Requires the Department of Labor to require that publicly funded workforce development programs, including state and local workforce investment boards and the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program, include within their plans and programs efforts to promote and increase awareness of the program;
3. Directs the Maine Community College System, the University of Maine System and the Maine Maritime Academy to make reasonable efforts to inform students about the program; and
4. Directs the Finance Authority of Maine to contract with a private nonprofit corporation in the amount of at least \$20,000 annually to market the program throughout the State.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1301 An Act To Create the Maine Education Investment Board

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON LANGLEY	ONTP	

This bill establishes the Maine Education Investment Board. The board consists of the Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee, members of various sectors of the State's publicly supported educational entities and 2 public members. The board shall develop and enter into annual achievement compacts with the State's educational entities that receive public funds from the department and oversee the progress of the entities under those compacts to ensure that all public school students in this State reach the education outcomes established for the State from kindergarten to postsecondary education. The compacts must include strategies for streamlined transitions between grades and school systems, strategies to ensure that public school students meet the requirements for graduation and goals for high school and college graduation rates, strategies to ensure availability of high-quality career and technical education courses and fair measures for assessing teacher quality. The board shall also work on strategic projects assigned by the commissioner.

LD 1321 An Act To Promote Healthy School Lighting

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOLAND TUTTLE	ONTP	

This bill requires all public schools to install and maintain, for all new or replacement classroom lighting, lighting that meets color rendition standards adopted by rule by the Department of Education. Standards adopted by the department must ensure that the lighting has a color rendering index value of 90 or higher as determined in accordance with procedures and standards established by the International Commission on Illumination or as verified by the United States Department of Energy.

LD 1322 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Municipality from a Regional School Unit

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LUCHINI LANGLEY	ONTP	

This emergency bill provides for a process of so-called final offer arbitration as a means to resolving a dispute between a withdrawal committee and the directors of the regional school unit board regarding an agreement for withdrawal for a municipality that seeks to withdraw from a regional school unit. The bill requires that, in the event that a withdrawal committee and the directors of the regional school unit board are unable to reach agreement on the provisions of an agreement for withdrawal, the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the parties, shall appoint an arbitrator to assist the parties in the settlement of the dispute related to the agreement for withdrawal between the parties.

Current law requires that the total number of votes cast for and against the withdrawal agreement must equal or exceed 50% of the municipal votes cast for a candidate for Governor in the last gubernatorial election. This bill eliminates that requirement while still maintaining the requirement that the withdrawal agreement is approved by a majority vote. Finally, the bill removes changes made by Public Law 2011, chapter 678, Part J that would have

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

reinstated the 2/3 vote requirement for approving a withdrawal agreement on January 1, 2015.

LD 1330 An Act To Establish in Law a Method for Alternative Certification of Teachers CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON G		

This bill establishes an alternative pathway to teacher certification. Under this bill, programs that prepare persons for alternative certification are certified by the Commissioner of Education. The programs must provide targeted course work in teaching, mentoring or student teaching experience, classroom preparation and student assessments. Graduates of these programs are eligible to obtain professional teacher certificates. The bill also requires the State Board of Education to establish minimum standards of performance for these programs and, by October 31, 2016, to develop minimum standards of performance for all teacher preparation programs.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 1332 An Act To Increase the College Graduation Rate in Maine ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOYLE TIPPING-SPITZ	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to create a college scholarship fund for postsecondary students who have left school after making considerable progress towards completion of their undergraduate degrees and who are unable to return without financial assistance. The fund would be established and administered by the State, with initial funding of equal amounts from the State, universities in this State and the private sector.

LD 1346 An Act To Ensure That Charter Schools Are Funded by the State ONTP

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

This bill establishes a moratorium on the authorization of new public charter schools until the State provides at least 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as set out in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. The bill amends the current collective bargaining provisions in the public charter school laws to clarify that teachers employed by a public charter school authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission retain the choice of whether or not to establish a collective bargaining unit and whether or not to become a member of a collective bargaining unit established for the public charter school.

The bill also provides that teachers employed by a public charter school authorized by a local school board or a collaborative of local school boards may choose to bargain collectively as follows.

1. Teachers who are employees of a start-up public charter school have the same rights as other teachers in public education to organize and bargain collectively.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

2. Teachers who are employees of a noncharter public school converting to a public charter school remain public employees for all purposes, unless a majority of teachers employed by the conversion public charter school vote to be represented in alternative ways.

3. Teachers who are employees of a start-up public charter school or a noncharter public school converting to a public charter school may collectively bargain as a separate bargaining unit or as part of an existing school administrative unit collective bargaining unit as determined by a majority of the teachers employed by the start-up public charter school or noncharter public school converting to a public charter school.

**LD 1347 An Act To Improve the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws
by Allowing a Regional School Unit To Dissolve Itself**

**LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PARRY		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to improve the school administrative unit consolidation laws by allowing for the dissolution of a regional school unit at the end of any school year. The bill provides the following process for the dissolution of a regional school unit.

1. A member municipality of a regional school unit may petition to hold a vote on the dissolution of the regional school unit.
2. If a majority of the voters in the municipality approve the petition, the petition must be presented to the regional school unit board and the Commissioner of Education. The commissioner shall contact the regional school unit board, municipal officers of the participating municipalities and representatives of the group that filed the petition to establish a dissolution committee, which must prepare a dissolution agreement for submission to the voters of the member municipalities in the regional school unit.
3. Each member municipality of the regional school unit may independently decide whether the member municipality wants to participate in the referendum vote to dissolve the regional school unit.
4. A majority of the member municipalities within the regional school unit must approve the decision to hold the referendum vote on the question on the dissolution of the regional school unit.
5. The regional school unit may be dissolved only if a majority of voters in a majority of the member municipalities within the regional school unit votes to approve the referendum question to dissolve the regional school unit.
6. If a majority of voters in a majority of the member municipalities within the regional school unit votes to approve the referendum question on the dissolution of the regional school unit, the regional school unit must be dissolved and the board of directors of the regional school unit and a dissolution committee comprised of members representing each of the member municipalities in the regional school unit must develop and execute a dissolution agreement.
7. The dissolution agreement must provide for the disposition of all real and personal property and other monetary assets.
8. The dissolution agreement must address the outstanding indebtedness of the regional school unit as follows:
 - A. Outstanding indebtedness may not include debt service for school property, including real estate, facilities

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

and any other infrastructure debt that is the sole responsibility of a member municipality within the regional school unit; and

B. Except for the provisions in paragraph A, outstanding indebtedness must be apportioned to each member municipality of the regional school unit based on the percentage of resident students that each member municipality has of the total student resident count in the regional school unit.

9. The member municipalities of the dissolved regional school unit may not be penalized for dissolving the regional school unit.

10. The member municipalities of the dissolved regional school unit may join another existing regional school unit or alternative organizational structure or may form an alternative organizational structure with another school administrative unit or with other units.

11. A member municipality of the dissolved regional school unit that tuitions a majority of its resident students to another school administrative unit or a private school that is approved to receive publicly funded students is exempt from any requirements established for the minimum number of students under the school administrative unit consolidation law and may form its own municipal school unit. A municipal school unit formed under this exemption must continue to provide school choice to parents of students who reside in the member municipality.

LD 1349 An Act To Amend the Appointment Process for the Maine Charter School Commission

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KORNFELD	OTP-AM	H-454

This bill proposes to change the process by which public charter schools and virtual public charter schools are authorized. The bill designates the Legislature as the sole authorizer of public charter schools and virtual public charter schools in the State. It amends the duties of the Maine Charter School Commission to include recommending to the Legislature approval or denial of public charter school applications. The bill requires the commission to enter into charter contracts with charter schools authorized by the Legislature. It assigns oversight and monitoring of public charter schools to the commission and requires the commission to recommend to the authorizer that the contract of a public charter school or virtual public charter school be renewed or not renewed. The bill also makes the commission responsible for performance compliance.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-454)

This amendment changes the title of the bill and strikes and replaces the bill to change the process by which the four public members of the Maine Charter School Commission are nominated and appointed to the commission. The amendment shifts the authority for appointing the public members to the entire State Board of Education. The amendment also requires that the appointment of a public member to the commission is subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and to confirmation by the Senate.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1350 An Act Regarding School Administrator Effectiveness

**DIED IN
CONCURRENCE**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN MACDONALD W	OTP-AM ONTP OTP-AM	S-258 S-358 HILL

This bill requires school administrative units to develop and implement performance evaluation and professional growth systems for administrators. A performance evaluation and professional growth system must meet certain criteria, be consistent with rules adopted by the Department of Education and be approved by the department. Every year the school board must use the system to analyze the performance of the school administrative unit's administrators.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-258)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the bill. It provides that each school board shall implement a system to annually evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the superintendent. The system established by school boards must be consistent with nationally recognized principles and standards of professional practice.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-259)

This amendment, which is one of the minority reports of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It changes the definition of "administrator" to exclude a special education director or curriculum coordinator.
2. It removes language that provides that receipt of summative effectiveness ratings indicating that an administrator is ineffective for 2 consecutive years constitutes just cause for termination of an administrator's contract.
3. It removes language that provides that measurements of student learning and growth must be a significant factor in the determination of the rating of an administrator.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-358)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

LD 1353 An Act To Further Reduce Student Hunger

**HELD BY
GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND BECK	OTP-AM	S-70 S-359 HILL

This bill requires, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, that a School Administrative Unit (SAU) with at least one public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year to participate in the federal summer food service program during the following summer vacation or to opt out in accordance with the following:

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

1. If the SAU operates a summer educational or recreational program, the SAU must operate a federal summer food service program in the area served by that school on days that the school operates the summer educational or recreational program. The school administrative unit may collaborate with a service institution to operate the federal summer food service program;
2. If the SAU does not operate a summer educational or recreational program, the SAU must collaborate with a service institution (a public or private nonprofit school, a municipal or county government, a public or private nonprofit higher education institution or a private nonprofit summer camp) to operate a federal summer food service program, if there is a service institution that provides food service to children in the summer in the area served by the public school; and
3. An SAU may opt out of these requirements if the governing body of the SAU determines by vote, after notice and a public hearing, that it would be financially or logistically impracticable to operate a program. If the SAU chooses not to operate a program, it must notify parents of children in the SAU of its decision and the reasons for its decision.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-70)

This amendment removes the requirement that if a school administrative unit chooses not to operate a federal summer food service program, it must notify parents of children in the school administrative unit of its decision and the reasons for its decision.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-359)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

**LD 1361 An Act To Strengthen the Teaching of Writing and Mathematics and
 Improve Maine High School Graduates' College and Career Readiness**

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

NELSON

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

The purpose of this bill is to strengthen the teaching of writing and mathematics in public schools in the State, to improve literacy and mathematics education and to improve Maine high school graduates' college and career readiness. The bill does the following.

1. It establishes a standards-based approach to assessing the proficiency and competency of new teachers and teachers seeking a renewal of a professional teacher certificate in order to prepare teachers and ensure that school administrative units are prepared to implement the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics.
2. It requires the Education Coordinating Committee to conduct a review of college placement tests, including the ACCUPLACER test, used by the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy and secondary schools in the State to determine a high school graduate's college readiness.
3. It requires the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to establish graduation requirements that ensure that graduates of any baccalaureate degree program within the system can demonstrate writing competencies that are appropriate to the demands of careers that require a baccalaureate degree.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

**LD 1366 An Act To Require Public Schools To Offer Instruction Related to
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External
Defibrillator**

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRAHAM DUTREMBLE	OTP-AM	H-164

This bill requires that, as a condition of graduation from high school, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, each student receive instruction and achieve proficiency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-164)

This amendment:

1. Removes the requirement that every student develop proficiency in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of an automated external defibrillator as part of the system of learning results; and
2. Requires public schools to offer training to students on how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and use automated external defibrillators in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Education. The rules must be designed to ensure that the training requirements can be met without a public school's being required to expand or modify its activity so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues.

LD 1394 An Act To Make Parents More Aware of Eating Disorders

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TUTTLE MACDONALD W	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill directs the Department of Education, seeking the assistance of the Department of Health and Human Services, school boards, school superintendents, the National Eating Disorders Association, the National Association of School Nurses and the Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, to develop and implement policies for providing parents educational information regarding eating disorders. A school board must annually provide parents of kindergarten to grade 12 students with educational information regarding eating disorders.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-66)

This amendment, which is the minority report, replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Department of Education, through training programs it provides to school nurses and other school personnel, to disseminate information about the seriousness of student eating disorders and the resources that are available to help schools identify, address and respond to eating disorders.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1412 An Act To Create an Educational Collaborative Partnership To Implement a Program That Enables Career and Technical Education Students To Earn College Credits while Attending High School

**PUBLIC 318
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY CHAPMAN	OTP-AM	S-286

This bill establishes a collaborative of publicly supported educational institutions in the State, including career and technical education programs, a public secondary school, a private secondary school approved for the receipt of public funds under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 117, subchapter 2 that enrolls 60% or more publicly funded students and public postsecondary institutions in the State, to implement a program that enables career and technical education students to earn college credits while attending high school. The program runs for 3 years, beginning with students in their junior year in high school, enabling students to earn an associate degree following one year of postsecondary education and saving students time and money in obtaining that degree.

The educational collaborative will develop and implement a cohort-based learning pathway that enables career and technical education students to earn academic credits during their junior and senior years of high school that are equivalent to about a year of college. The program includes opportunities for students to attend up to 3 summer career academies held at an area business, a career and technical education program or a public postsecondary education institution in the State. The students will then move into a degree program at a community college or university campus and graduate with an associate degree within one year after receiving their high school diplomas.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-286)

This amendment clarifies the provisions of the bill that authorize the establishment of collaborative partnerships of publicly supported educational institutions in the State, including career and technical education programs, publicly supported secondary schools and public postsecondary institutions in the State, to implement a program that enables career and technical education students to earn college credits while attending high school. The amendment refines the composition and the duties of the collaborative board in forming a dual enrollment career and technical education program, including providing oversight of collaborative agreements between the participating members of the collaborative partnership and contracting with service providers for providing technical assistance in developing and implementing dual enrollment programs. The amendment also clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the collaborative partnership in developing and implementing a cohort-based learning pathway that enables career and technical education students to earn academic credits during their junior and senior years of high school that are equivalent to about a year of college. The amendment also refines the student eligibility requirements for participation in the dual enrollment career and technical education program.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 318 establishes a collaborative of publicly supported educational institutions in the State, including career and technical education programs, publicly supported secondary schools and public postsecondary institutions in the State, to implement a program that enables career and technical education students to earn college credits while attending high school. The program runs for 3 years, beginning with students in their junior year in high school, enabling students to earn an associate degree following one year of postsecondary education and saving students time and money in obtaining that degree.

The educational collaborative will develop and implement a cohort-based learning pathway that enables career and technical education students to earn academic credits during their junior and senior years of high school that are equivalent to about a year of college. The program includes opportunities for students to attend up to 3 summer career academies held at an area business, a career and technical education program or a public postsecondary education institution in the State. The students will then move into a degree program at a community college or

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

university campus and graduate with an associate degree within one year after receiving their high school diplomas.

Public Law 2013, chapter 318 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 21, 2013.

LD 1431 An Act To Support School Nutrition and Expand the Local Foods Economy **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C HICKMAN		

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Education to administer programs to support the expansion and coordination of the use of fresh local foods in public school food service programs. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is directed to provide grants in 2 phases for the identification of local food suppliers and the establishment of local food hubs to connect local food producers with public school food service programs and facilitate the operation of local food programs in schools. The bill also directs the Department of Education to develop and support local food training programs for public school food service personnel and facilitate the use of local food hubs to expand the use of local foods in schools. The bill also provides a bond issue in the amount of \$12,000,000 to be used to develop up to 10 local food hubs.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 1441 An Act To Align the Formation of Governing Boards of Career and Technical Education Regions with That of Other Public Schools **ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHAPMAN GRATWICK	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires the members of the cooperative boards of career and technical education regions to be elected. Currently, members are appointed by the school boards of units within a region. This bill requires the State Board of Education to establish by rule election procedures and standards that the school boards of the units within each region must then choose among and adopt. The procedures and standards are required to be as similar as possible to those provided for the election of directors of school administrative districts. The bill provides for a transition period to allow for the adoption of rules by the state board, adoption of procedures by each region and the holding of the necessary elections.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-313)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1481 An Act To Ensure the Success of Maine Students **ONTP**

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

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill establishes a moratorium on the authorization of new public charter schools until all of the following conditions are met:

1. The State provides at least 55% of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as defined by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act; and

2. The State Board of Education finds that:

A. The research on public charter schools in the United States clearly and incontrovertibly demonstrates that public charter schools reliably improve education for students in a sustainable manner without increasing the cost to the statewide public education system and with no adverse effect on those students who are unable to attend a public charter school;

B. The existing public charter schools in Maine have improved education for students in a sustainable manner without increasing the cost to the statewide public education system and with no adverse effect on those students who are unable to attend a public charter school;

C. There is a clear and demonstrable need for additional public charter schools in Maine; and

D. The existing kindergarten to grade 12 public school facilities in Maine are entirely safe and conducive to learning.

LD 1502 An Act To Expand Student Access to Certain Career Information and Opportunities

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE CUSHING	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires school boards to allow implementation of the armed services vocational aptitude battery career exploration program developed by the United States Department of Defense. The program consists of aptitude testing, completion of a student interest inventory and use of career exploration guides and activities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-312)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1503 An Act To Ensure Student Access to Postsecondary Military Options

**DIED BETWEEN
HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE CUSHING	ONTP OTP-AM	H-311 S-365 HILL

This bill requires publicly supported secondary schools and secondary public charter schools to provide uniformed recruiters for the United States Armed Forces or the Maine National Guard the same access to secondary school students as other postsecondary and career recruiters.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (H-311)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, incorporates a fiscal note.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-365)

This amendment adds a mandate preamble.

LD 1505 An Act Regarding Insured Value Factor Payments for Public Tuition Students Attending a Private School

PUBLIC 418

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	OTP-AM	S-293

This bill increases the insured value factor portion of the tuition rate that a private school may charge for public tuition students to 6% of the tuition rate in school year 2013-2014, to 8% of the tuition rate in school year 2014-2015 and to 10% of the tuition rate beginning in school year 2015-2016, which was the rate permitted prior to school year 2008-2009.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-293)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to increase the insured value factor portion of the tuition rate that a private school may charge for public tuition students to 6% of the tuition rate in school year 2014-2015. The amendment provides that, in subsequent school years, the insured value factor payment will be adjusted by a percentage equal to the change in the State's share of the total cost of funding education, but may not be less than 6% and not more than 10% of the tuition rate, unless the school administrative unit votes to pay an insured value factor that exceeds the amount permitted by no more than 5% of the private school's tuition rate.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 418 increases the insured value factor portion of the tuition rate that a private school may charge for public tuition students to 6% of the tuition rate in school year 2014-2015. The law provides that, in subsequent school years, the insured value factor payment will be adjusted by a percentage equal to the change in the State's share of the total cost of funding education, but may not be less than 6% and not more than 10% of the tuition rate, unless the school administrative unit votes to pay an insured value factor that exceeds the amount permitted by no more than 5% of the private school's tuition rate.

LD 1510 An Act To Ensure Statewide School Accountability and Improvement

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P LANGLEY	ONTP OTP-AM	

Under current federal law, a struggling school is only identified and given help to improve if the school is funded under Title I of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. This bill creates a process for the Commissioner of Education to hold all schools accountable for student achievement and to work with schools to improve, regardless of whether they are so-called Title I schools.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

The bill creates a statewide school accountability system by strengthening the existing school approval law. Under existing law, the commissioner is authorized to determine whether schools meet basic school approval standards, including the standard requiring all units to prepare and implement a comprehensive education plan aligned with the system of learning results, focused on the learning of all students and oriented to continuous improvement. This bill requires a school administrative unit that is identified as needing assistance to create a school improvement plan to correct any aspects of the school that do not comply with school approval standards in statute and rule. The bill sets forth specific strategies that may be included in a school improvement plan and calls for additional strategies if the school fails to improve after 2 years. It also provides school choice for students whose school loses basic school approval.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-558)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, amends the bill to make the following changes.

1. It removes the provisions that provide school choice for students whose school loses basic school approval.
2. It inserts a reference in the school assistance provisions amended by the bill to the provision that authorizes the Commissioner of Education to develop major substantive rules to implement the purposes of the laws regarding standards and assessment of student performance in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 222.
3. It provides that a school administrative unit may file an appeal to the State Board of Education of a decision by the Department of Education to withdraw basic school approval due to the failure of the school administrative unit to participate in the development or implementation of a school improvement plan.

LD 1522 An Act To Protect Children from Exposure on the Internet without Parental Consent

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill expands the restrictions on information regarding students that may be published by a public school on the Internet to include video and other images from which a student can be identified. The bill also extends the Internet restrictions that apply to public schools to apply to after-school programs, programs provided to students pursuant to an agreement with a public school and child care facilities.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-455)

This amendment, which is the minority report for the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, amends the bill to remove videos of students from the images from which a student can be identified that a public school is restricted from publishing on the Internet without first obtaining written parental consent to provide the image.

LD 1524 An Act To Address the Burden Placed on Students as a Result of Requirements To Take Remedial Courses

ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Under current law, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy are required to report on the number of remedial courses taken by students from each school administrative unit in the subjects of English language arts and mathematics. This bill requires those institutions to report the cost to the students of those remedial courses, by school administrative unit, and requires the Commissioner of Education to reduce state subsidy to the school administrative units and to pay those funds to the higher education institution. Those higher education institutions are required to use the funds to reduce or eliminate the cost of remedial courses to their students and to report to the Commissioner of Education and the Legislature how those funds were used to achieve the reduction or elimination of costs.

LD 1526 An Act To Include Debt Service for Local School Construction Projects ONTP
in the Required Local Share of Education Funding

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N KATZ	ONTP	

This bill includes in debt services for purposes of the school funding formula locally funded major capital projects for school construction that are not approved by the State Board of Education.

**LD 1529 An Act To Expand School Choice for Maine Students ACCEPTED
 MAJORITY
 (ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON G JOHNSON P	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill expands the publicly funded educational choices available to Maine students in several ways. It allows colleges and universities to authorize public charter schools and removes the 10-school limit on public charter schools authorized by the Maine Charter School Commission. The bill also allows private sectarian schools to receive public funds as long as they comply with standards applicable to other private schools.

The bill allows funding to be used to enable economically disadvantaged students to take advantage of school choice options available under current law. The funds may be used to pay for transportation and tuition for students who transfer to other public or private schools and to pay for room and board costs of a student attending a public charter school that is beyond a reasonable commuting distance from the student's home. Currently, this funding may be used only for students enrolled in the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences, which is designated as the State's Center of Excellence for At-risk Students.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-313)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 1530 An Act To Establish a Process for the Implementation of Universal CARRIED OVER
Voluntary Prekindergarten Education

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL BERRY		

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

This bill requires implementation of universal voluntary prekindergarten education by the 2017-2018 school year. The Commissioner of Education is required to establish a stakeholder group to work with the commissioner and interested parties to establish a plan to implement the requirement. The stakeholder group is required to develop standards for prekindergarten education programs, recommend uniform statewide procedures for screening children and assessing program performance and recommend best practices to coordinate early childhood education programs with child care providers. The commissioner is required to submit a report of the work of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 15, 2014, and the committee is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature regarding the report. The bill also clarifies the role of the State Board of Education with regard to prekindergarten education, changes the compulsory age for school attendance from 7 years of age to 5 years of age beginning July 1, 2016 and provides that funding provided to a school administrative unit for prekindergarten purposes may not be used for other purposes. The bill provides that the Commissioner of Education must provide implementation grants and provides funds for those grants and for a position in the Department of Education to oversee early childhood education programs.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 1533 An Act To Establish the Maine Online Learning Collaborative

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND	OTP-AM	S-302

This bill amends the laws governing the Maine Online Learning Program by:

1. Including an online learning provider's demonstrated experience in collaborating with schools to develop innovative practices related to online learning as a basis for approval of the online learning provider by the Department of Education;
2. Requiring an online learning provider to reapply for approval annually;
3. Allowing courses offered by online learning providers to be of varying lengths and worth varying amounts of credit;
4. Requiring an online learning provider to use surveys approved by the department to gauge the satisfaction of its students with the online learning provider and the courses offered by that online learning provider and the department to provide the results of these surveys to the Legislature; and
5. Establishing the Maine Online Learning Program Reimbursement Fund to provide funds to a school administrative unit for the cost of courses provided by an online learning provider to students in that school administrative unit. The bill establishes eligibility requirements, guaranteed reimbursement allocations, dollar amount limits and procedures for carrying over unused allocations. The fund is funded by a transfer of the balance of funds remaining in the Maine Learning Technology Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-302)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill and amends the laws governing the Maine Online Learning Program by adding 2 provisions to the goals of the program that would enable students to meet the standards of the system of learning results and that would augment the capacity of teachers who are certified in the State to provide high-quality online and blended learning experiences for students. The amendment strikes the provisions in the bill that propose to establish the Maine Online Learning Program Reimbursement Fund

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

and replaces the fund with provisions to authorize the Department of Education to establish the Maine Online Learning Collaborative, a partnership with a statewide consortium consisting of Maine school administrative units, public charter schools and approved private secondary schools that enroll 60% or more publicly funded students and other educational organizations to collaboratively develop a high-quality online learning program to commence in the 2014-2015 school year that provides students in grades 9 to 12 access to part-time digital learning through online and hybrid courses that are taught by Maine certified teachers. The amendment requires the Department of Education to develop approval criteria and a process for approving online learning providers to implement online learning programs with the Maine Online Learning Collaborative; and provides that the request for proposals must be reviewed and approved by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs before the request for proposals is publicized by the department. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**LD 1540 An Act To Fix and Improve the System Used To Evaluate or Rate
Public Schools in Maine**

**DIED IN
CONCURRENCE**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT MACDONALD W	OTP-AM ONTP	S-306

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to provide that if the Department of Education or any other state agency uses a system to evaluate or rate public schools:

1. The department or other state agency shall give notice to the public that such a system will be used, shall give an opportunity for the public and interested parties to provide input regarding the development of the system and shall convene a task force on the development and implementation of the system that includes but is not limited to representatives of the following stakeholder groups:

- A. Teachers;
- B. School boards;
- C. Superintendents;
- D. Parents; and
- E. Students;

2. The system must include:

- A. Accurate measures of student progress over at least 5 years;
- B. Rates of postsecondary school attendance and enlistment in the United States Armed Forces over at least 5 years;
- C. A peer group comparison that takes into account, but is not limited to, utilization of special education services, the number of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals, local and county unemployment data and median household income;
- D. School attendance rates;
- E. Graduation rates; and

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

F. Interviews with parents of students, members of governing boards of school administrative units, teachers and other education leaders about the overall school environment; and

3. The system may not use a bell curve and a school may not be penalized because of the failure of students to take certain standardized tests.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-306)

This amendment, which is the majority report for the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, strikes and replaces the concept draft with an emergency bill that proposes to accomplish the following initiatives:

1. It provides that, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year and only after the adoption of major substantive rules by the Department of Education, the Commissioner of Education shall implement a school assessment system to measure school performance and student proficiency in achieving the knowledge and skills described in the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 6209, subsection 2 and Department of Education Rule Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction;

2. It provides that, until those rules are adopted, notwithstanding Title 20-A, section 6214 or any other provision of law, neither the department nor any other state agency may take any action based on the school grades reported on May 1, 2013 by the Commissioner of Education as part of a school performance grading system;

3. It provides that, notwithstanding any other provisions of Title 20-A, chapter 222, the commissioner may not provide a report of the statewide or school level results of the school assessment program until the final adoption of department rules adopted in accordance with Title 20-A, section 6214, subsection 3. It also provides that this provision may not be construed to prevent or inhibit the department from providing reports to comply with the federal statutes and regulations pertaining to student assessment as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. It also provides that the rules must be consistent with the recommendations reported by the task force to develop a system to evaluate or rate the performance of public schools in the State;

4. It directs the commissioner to convene a task force to review school assessment systems that have been implemented in other states and to develop a system to evaluate or rate the performance of public schools in this State;

5. It provides that the commissioner must report the task force's findings, recommendations and any necessary legislation with respect to the implementation of a school assessment system to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than November 1, 2013 and authorizes the joint standing committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature related to the recommendations included in this report; and

6. It provides that the department must file provisionally adopted major substantive rules by January 10, 2014 to implement the school assessment system and that the rules must specify the methods to be used as part of the annual assessment of the performance of elementary and secondary schools and the proficiency of elementary and secondary school students beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

LD 1542 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-507
	OTP-AM	H-546 MACDONALD W
	OTP-AM	

This resolve provides for legislative review of Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education that was filed outside the legislative rule acceptance period.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-507)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment provides that final adoption of Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems, a late-filed major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule. The specific changes are related to the following provisions of the rule:

1. The section concerning the use of measures of student learning and growth that are considered to be a significant factor in determining the summative effectiveness rating of an educator;
2. The section concerning the determination of the teacher of record for specific students; and
3. The section concerning the requirement that school administrative units must collaborate with educators and other education stakeholders in developing, implementing and reviewing a performance evaluation and professional development system.

The amendment also provides that the Maine Educator Effectiveness Council is authorized to continue to meet to review specified unresolved issues related to Department of Education rule Chapter 180, and that the Commissioner of Education must submit a report on the work of the council, including recommendations regarding proposed changes to the education statutes or Chapter 180, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 6, 2013. The joint standing committee is authorized to introduce a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-508)

This amendment is one of 2 minority reports of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment provides that final adoption of Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems, a late-filed major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule in the section concerning the determination of the teacher of record for specific students. The amendment also provides that the Maine Educator Effectiveness Council is authorized to continue to meet to review specified unresolved issues related to Department of Education rule Chapter 180, and that the Commissioner of Education must submit a report on the work of the council, including recommendations regarding proposed changes to the education statutes or Chapter 180, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 6, 2013. The joint standing committee is authorized to introduce a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "C" (H-509)

This amendment is one of 2 minority reports of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

The amendment provides that final adoption of Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems, a late-filed major substantive rule of the Department of Education, is authorized contingent upon the department's making specified changes to the proposed rule. The specific changes are related to the following provisions of the rule:

1. The section concerning the use of measures of student learning and growth that are considered to be a significant factor in determining the summative effectiveness rating of an educator;
2. The section concerning the determination of the teacher of record for specific students;
3. The section concerning the requirement that school administrative units must collaborate with educators and other education stakeholders in developing, implementing and reviewing a performance evaluation and professional development system; and
4. The section concerning the requirement that school administrative units must form a steering committee to review and refine the performance evaluation and professional development system.

The amendment also provides that the Maine Educator Effectiveness Council is authorized to continue to meet to review specified unresolved issues related to Department of Education rule Chapter 180, and that the Commissioner of Education must submit a report on the work of the council, including recommendations regarding proposed changes to the education statutes or Chapter 180, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 6, 2013. The joint standing committee is authorized to introduce a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-546)

This amendment amends Committee Amendment "A" to provide greater detail regarding the permissible elements of a professional evaluation and professional growth system; to provide that educator effectiveness ratings may not be used for a reduction in force or nonrenewal of a contract unless all educators in the school administrative unit have received a rating and to require that members of a local education association be part of the initial group of stakeholders collaborating to develop the professional evaluation and professional growth evaluation system.

LD 1551 An Act Regarding the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation

**PUBLIC 367
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND	OTP-AM	S-263

This bill amends the law establishing the membership of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation and requires the current board of trustees to amend the bylaws of the corporation by January 1, 2014 to establish the number, terms and qualifications of trustees of the corporation and the method and manner of their selection consistent with Maine nonprofit corporation laws. The members of the current board serve until the new board is selected.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-263)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill and provides that, beginning January 1, 2014, the membership of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation must include one member representing the University of Maine System appointed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and one member to be appointed by the Governor, who is subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and to confirmation by the Senate. The amendment also provides that the chair of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation must provide a report including the proposed changes to the bylaws related to the corporation's board of

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

trustees to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 13, 2013.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 367 amends the law establishing the membership of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation and requires the current board of trustees to amend the bylaws of the corporation by January 1, 2014 to establish the number, terms and qualifications of trustees of the corporation. The law provides that, beginning January 1, 2014, the membership of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation must include one member representing the University of Maine System appointed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and one member to be appointed by the Governor, who is subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and to confirmation by the Senate.

The law also provides that the chair of the board of trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation must provide a report including the proposed changes to the bylaws related to the corporation's board of trustees to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 13, 2013.

Public Law 2013, chapter 367 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 26, 2013.

LD 1560 An Act To Allow Further Review of the Report Defining Cost Responsibility for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Students Receiving Services from the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf PUBLIC 347

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

This bill is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Public Law 2011, chapter 683. The bill amends section 11 of that law to extend the deadline for the joint standing committee to report out a bill. The bill allows the joint standing committee to report out a bill related to the report presented pursuant to section 11 to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 347 is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs pursuant to Public Law 2011, chapter 683. The law amends section 11 of that law to extend the deadline for the joint standing committee to report out a bill. The law allows the joint standing committee to report out a bill related to the report presented pursuant to section 11 to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

LD 1566 An Act Regarding School Budgets DIED IN CONCURRENCE

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLETT	OTP-AM ONTP	S-329

This bill permits a school board of a school administrative unit that requires a budget validation referendum to approve a budget to spend state funds that become available for fiscal year 2013-14 after the budget for the school administrative unit has been approved by the budget validation referendum without the need to submit the decision to an additional referendum.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Committee Amendment "A" (S-329)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The amendment strikes and replaces the bill to provide that, for fiscal year 2013-14 only, after the budget for a school administrative unit for that fiscal year has been approved by a budget validation referendum and the school board of a school administrative unit declares that an emergency exists, it may call a special budget meeting for the purpose of obtaining the approval of the legislative body of the school administrative unit to expend the additional state funding or to reduce its warrant to the assessors of member municipalities for the collection of taxes to cover the municipalities' share of the school administrative unit's costs. The amendment also clarifies that the legislative body of a school administrative unit has the authority to decide how to expend additional state funding without the need to submit the decision made at a special budget meeting to an additional budget validation referendum.

LD 1573 An Act To Extend the Authorization for the Maine Education Effectiveness Council

**VETO
SUSTAINED**

Sponsor(s)

ALFOND

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill was acted upon without reference to committee.

This bill authorizes the Maine Education Effectiveness Council to continue meeting, if it so desires, until 2 weeks after the convening of the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

Administration, Department of Education, State Board, and School Governance

Enacted

LD 244	An Act To Amend the Student Membership Criteria of the State Board of Education	PUBLIC 15 EMERGENCY
LD 485	An Act To Amend and Clarify Certain Education Laws	PUBLIC 167
LD 530	An Act To Ensure That the Standard of a Student's Best Interest Is Applied to Superintendent Agreements for Transfer Students	PUBLIC 337
LD 944	Resolve, To Review the Impact of Unfunded Education Mandates and Evaluate the Efficacy of Education Laws	RESOLVE 74 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 301	An Act To Remove Unnecessary Agenda from the School Day	ONTP
LD 772	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Franco-Americans Regarding the Reporting of Franco-American Ethnicity Data	ONTP
LD 1055	An Act To Create a Maine Financial Education Portal	ONTP
LD 1301	An Act To Create the Maine Education Investment Board	ONTP
LD 1502	An Act To Expand Student Access to Certain Career Information and Opportunities	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT
LD 1503	An Act To Ensure Student Access to Postsecondary Military Options	DIED BETWEEN HOUSES
LD 1530	An Act To Establish a Process for the Implementation of Universal Voluntary Prekindergarten Education	CARRIED OVER

Adult Education

Enacted

LD 442	Resolve, To Ensure the Continued Accessibility and Affordability of a High School Equivalency Exam for Maine Residents	RESOLVE 49
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Alternative Education, Charter Schools and School Choice

Enacted

LD 61	An Act To Amend Standards for Participation in Certain Public School Services by Students Who Are Homeschooled	PUBLIC 400
LD 92	An Act Relating to Private School Student Participation in Public School Cocurricular, Interscholastic and Extracurricular Activities	PUBLIC 428
LD 439	An Act To Improve Maine's Charter School Laws	PUBLIC 272
LD 729	An Act To Allow Charter Schools To Request Waivers from Certain Requirements	PUBLIC 216
LD 791	An Act To Improve Equity for Economically Disadvantaged Students Seeking To Transfer to an Approved Private School or a Public School	PUBLIC 356

Alternative Education, Charter Schools and School Choice

Not Enacted

LD 233	An Act To Require the Department of Education To Report on the Costs and Sources of Funding of Charter Schools	LEAVE TO WITHDRAW
LD 481	Resolve, To Review the Laws Governing the Funding of Virtual Public Charter Schools	CARRIED OVER
LD 533	An Act To Eliminate the Requirement That Local Funding Follow a Pupil to a Charter School	ONTP
LD 671	An Act To Protect Charter Schools by Requiring Them To Be Operated as Nonprofit Organizations	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 880	An Act To Change the Process for Student Transfers from an Alternative Organizational Structure	ONTP
LD 889	An Act To Adjust Funding Forwarded from School Districts to Charter Schools	ONTP
LD 906	An Act To Permit a School Administrative Unit Discretion Concerning Participation of Students from Charter Schools in School Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities	CARRIED OVER
LD 995	An Act To Establish a Moratorium on the Approval and Operation of Virtual Public Charter Schools	CARRIED OVER
LD 1056	An Act To Require Local Voter Approval for Charter Schools	ONTP
LD 1057	An Act Related to Public Funding of Charter Schools	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1128	An Act To Provide for Greater Public Input and Local Control in the Chartering of Public Schools	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1346	An Act To Ensure That Charter Schools Are Funded by the State	ONTP
LD 1349	An Act To Amend the Appointment Process for the Maine Charter School Commission	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1481	An Act To Ensure the Success of Maine Students	ONTP
LD 1529	An Act To Expand School Choice for Maine Students	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

Career and Technical Education

Enacted

LD 193	An Act To Authorize InterCoast Career Institute To Grant the Degree of Associate Degree in Applied Science	P & S 14
LD 370	Resolve, To Create a Working Group To Identify Elementary School and Middle School Applied Learning Opportunities	RESOLVE 22
LD 1412	An Act To Create an Educational Collaborative Partnership To Implement a Program That Enables Career and Technical Education Students To Earn College Credits while Attending High School	PUBLIC 318 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 464	An Act To Change Compensation for Career and Technical Education Region Cooperative Board Meeting Attendance	CARRIED OVER
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Career and Technical Education

Not Enacted

LD 715	An Act To Improve Access to Career and Technical Schools	CARRIED OVER
LD 1441	An Act To Align the Formation of Governing Boards of Career and Technical Education Regions with That of Other Public Schools	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

Cultural Affairs

Enacted

LD 160	An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Archaeological Sites	PUBLIC 89
LD 532	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Maine State Library	PUBLIC 82
LD 1019	An Act To Protect the State's Property Rights in Maine State Museum Research	PUBLIC 205 EMERGENCY
LD 1100	An Act To Update and Revise the Laws Governing the Maine Arts Commission	PUBLIC 181
LD 1551	An Act Regarding the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation	PUBLIC 367 EMERGENCY

Curriculum, Instruction, Textbooks and Testing

Enacted

LD 178	Resolve, To Provide Consistency in Rules of the Department of Education Regarding Visual and Performing Arts Requirements for High School Graduation	RESOLVE 38
LD 668	An Act To Encourage the Teaching of Agricultural Studies in Schools	PUBLIC 106
LD 843	An Act To Promote the Financial Literacy of High School Students	PUBLIC 244
LD 1290	An Act To Encourage High School Students To Complete Community Service	PUBLIC 176

Not Enacted

LD 665	An Act To Facilitate the Transition to a Standards-based Educational System	ONTP
LD 669	An Act Requiring School Administrative Units To Adopt School Volunteer Policies	ONTP
LD 750	An Act To Make the Completion of an Internship a Requirement for High School Graduation	ONTP
LD 773	Resolve, To Enhance the Study of Franco-American History in Schools	ONTP
LD 963	An Act To Expand Access to Early Postsecondary Education	HELD BY GOVERNOR
LD 1096	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Students Experiencing Education Disruption	HELD BY GOVERNOR
LD 1129	An Act To Promote Innovation in Public Schools	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1143	An Act To Develop Young Readers	DIED IN CONCURRENCE

Curriculum, Instruction, Textbooks and Testing

Not Enacted

LD 1361	An Act To Strengthen the Teaching of Writing and Mathematics and Improve Maine High School Graduates' College and Career Readiness	CARRIED OVER
LD 1510	An Act To Ensure Statewide School Accountability and Improvement	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT
LD 1540	An Act To Fix and Improve the System Used To Evaluate or Rate Public Schools in Maine	DIED IN CONCURRENCE

Education - Other

Enacted

LD 466	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Awarding a High School Diploma to Veterans	PUBLIC 281
LD 821	An Act To Allocate the Balance of Funds Not Expended by the Task Force on Franco-Americans	P & S 8 EMERGENCY
LD 822	An Act To Establish Invite Your Maine Legislator to School Month	PUBLIC 103
LD 1132	An Act To Achieve Economic Growth by Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education and To Meet Workforce Needs	PUBLIC 410

Not Enacted

LD 699	An Act To Allow Public Schools To Offer Classes Limited to Students of a Single Gender	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT
LD 868	An Act To Expand Funding for Early Childhood Education	ONTP
LD 1522	An Act To Protect Children from Exposure on the Internet without Parental Consent	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

Health, Nutrition and Safety

Enacted

LD 609	An Act To Increase Suicide Awareness and Prevention in Maine Public Schools	PUBLIC 53
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Not Enacted

LD 528	An Act To Require Parental Consent for a School To Conduct Mental Health or Behavioral Screening on a Student	ONTP
LD 672	An Act Relating to Exemption from Immunization for Schoolchildren	CARRIED OVER
LD 1160	An Act To Reduce Obesity among Schoolchildren	DIED BETWEEN HOUSES
LD 1185	An Act To Enhance Efforts To Use Locally Produced Food in Schools	CARRIED OVER
LD 1241	An Act To Protect School Athletes from Head Injuries	ONTP
LD 1321	An Act To Promote Healthy School Lighting	ONTP
LD 1353	An Act To Further Reduce Student Hunger	HELD BY GOVERNOR

Health, Nutrition and Safety

Not Enacted

LD 1366	An Act To Require Public Schools To Offer Instruction Related to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1394	An Act To Make Parents More Aware of Eating Disorders	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT
LD 1431	An Act To Support School Nutrition and Expand the Local Foods Economy	CARRIED OVER

Online Learning Programs and Courses

Not Enacted

LD 1130	An Act To Create a Virtual School Managed by the State	ONTP
LD 1533	An Act To Establish the Maine Online Learning Collaborative	VETO SUSTAINED

Postsecondary Education Finance and Student Aid

Enacted

LD 112	An Act To Make Changes to the Educators for Maine Program	PUBLIC 7
LD 113	An Act To Make Changes to the Maine College Savings Program	PUBLIC 4
LD 351	An Act To Authorize the Provision of Insurance on Student Loans	PUBLIC 34 EMERGENCY
LD 1300	An Act To Promote and Expand Awareness of the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit	PUBLIC 417

Not Enacted

LD 384	An Act To Allow Spouses and Children of Veterans Killed in the Line of Duty To Receive the State Tuition Waiver	ONTP
LD 531	An Act To Allow Students To Audit Classes at University of Maine System Campuses	ONTP
LD 623	An Act To Promote the Attainment of Higher Education Degrees	ONTP
LD 862	An Act To Assist York County Community College	ONTP
LD 959	An Act To Require That Seed Money Generated at an Individual College of the Maine Community College System Be Returned to That College for the Purpose of Enhancement	ONTP
LD 962	An Act To Increase Access to Higher Education	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT
LD 1003	Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study Accessibility and Affordability of Higher Education	ONTP
LD 1036	An Act To Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program	CARRIED OVER
LD 1093	An Act To Clarify the Criteria of the Health Professions Loan Program as It Affects Physicians Practicing Neurology-psychiatry	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1261	An Act To Improve Access for Maine Students to Postsecondary Education	ONTP

Postsecondary Education Finance and Student Aid

Not Enacted

LD 1332	An Act To Increase the College Graduation Rate in Maine	ONTP
LD 1524	An Act To Address the Burden Placed on Students as a Result of Requirements To Take Remedial Courses	ONTP

Postsecondary Education Governance and Coordination

Enacted

LD 409	Resolve, To Establish a Veteran-to-farmer Training Pilot Program	RESOLVE 69
LD 422	An Act Regarding Enrollment and Graduation Rates of First-generation Higher Education Students	PUBLIC 166

Not Enacted

LD 670	Resolve, To Encourage the Use of Career Interest and Aptitude Tests in Higher Education	VETO SUSTAINED
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Safe Schools and Student Conduct

Enacted

LD 243	Resolve, To Direct the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Regarding Restraint of Students	RESOLVE 8 EMERGENCY
LD 673	Resolve, To Increase Awareness of Food Allergies in Public Schools	RESOLVE 42
LD 905	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Examine School Security	RESOLVE 76 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 93	An Act To Require Public Secondary Schools To Offer a Course in Gun Safety and Handling	ONTP
LD 529	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop Safety Standards for School Access	ONTP
LD 709	An Act To Require Students To Receive Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and the Use of an Automated External Defibrillator prior to Graduation	ONTP
LD 723	An Act To Ensure the Proper Treatment of Bullying Situations in Schools	ONTP
LD 823	An Act To Require Institutions of Higher Learning To Comply with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act	ONTP
LD 1083	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop a Process To Provide Alternative Pathways To Learning for Certain High School Students	ONTP

School Budgets

Not Enacted

LD 383	An Act To Increase Public Awareness Regarding School Budget Elections	MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT
LD 417	An Act To Ensure That All Voters Are Able To Vote in Regional School Unit Budget Elections	ONTP
LD 521	An Act To Change the Budget Approval Process for Alternative Organizational Structures	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 638	An Act To Require That School Budget Referenda Be Held on the Same Day as Primary Elections	ONTP

School Budgets

Not Enacted

LD 742	An Act To Amend the Regional School Unit Budget Validation Process	ONTP
LD 1291	An Act Regarding the Effect on Collective Bargaining Agreements of Failure To Validate a School Budget	DIED BETWEEN HOUSES
LD 1566	An Act Regarding School Budgets	DIED IN CONCURRENCE

School Construction, Facilities and Buses

Enacted

LD 91	An Act To Raise the School Construction Bond Cap	PUBLIC 44
LD 322	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education	RESOLVE 34 EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 462	An Act To Dedicate Funds for Emergency Back-up Power for Schools	ONTP
LD 666	Resolve, To Create a Working Group To Survey Maine Schools on the Costs and Benefits of Contracting for Energy Conservation Improvements	DIED ON ADJOURNMENT
LD 1235	An Act Regarding School Construction	VETO SUSTAINED
LD 1526	An Act To Include Debt Service for Local School Construction Projects in the Required Local Share of Education Funding	ONTP

School District Reorganization

Not Enacted

LD 783	An Act To Change the Voting Requirements for the Withdrawal of a Municipality from a Regional School Unit	CARRIED OVER
LD 1027	An Act To Provide an Improved Process for Voter Approval of Withdrawal from a Regional School Unit	LEAVE TO WITHDRAW
LD 1123	An Act To Allow the Town of Bancroft To Withdraw from Its Regional School Unit without Penalty	LEAVE TO WITHDRAW
LD 1322	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Municipality from a Regional School Unit	ONTP
LD 1347	An Act To Improve the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Laws by Allowing a Regional School Unit To Dissolve Itself	LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

School Finance

Enacted

LD 130	An Act To Stabilize Education Funding by Reducing the Impact of Changes in Property Valuation	PUBLIC 203
LD 667	An Act To Increase Funding to Schools	PUBLIC 171

Not Enacted

School Finance

Not Enacted

LD 18	An Act To Fund Public Education for Kindergarten to Grade 12 at 55%	ONTP
LD 25	An Act To Exclude Certain State-funded Costs from the State Share of the Total Cost of Funding Public Education	CARRIED OVER
LD 56	An Act To Ensure Equity in School Costs Borne by Municipalities within Consolidated School Units	ONTP
LD 194	An Act To Ensure That a Curtailment in School Funding Is Shared by All Institutions	ONTP
LD 195	An Act To Fund Education by Providing Equal State Funding for Each Student	ONTP
LD 299	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require the State Share of Education Funding To Be at Least Fifty-five Percent of the Total Cost and One Hundred Percent of the Cost of Special Education	ONTP
LD 300	An Act To Protect School Administrative Units and Taxpayers	CARRIED OVER
LD 367	An Act To Repeal the Repeal Provision in the Law That Limits the Reduction of State Subsidy for Education	ONTP
LD 369	An Act To Redesign Maine's School Funding Model	CARRIED OVER
LD 615	An Act To Protect School Administrative Units from a Sudden Decrease in Funding due to Reduced Enrollments	ONTP
LD 792	An Act To Ensure That Essential Programs and Services Targeted Funding Follows the Secondary Student	ONTP
LD 994	An Act To Change the State's Share of Education Costs Including Teacher Retirement Costs	ONTP
LD 1002	An Act Regarding the Required Local Contribution in the School Funding Formula	LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

Special Education Programs and Finance

Enacted

LD 34	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee and the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability Regarding Child Development Services	PUBLIC 338
LD 323	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education	RESOLVE 52 EMERGENCY
LD 1184	Resolve, Requiring Rulemaking Regarding Special Education Requirements and Review of School Administrative Units That Do Not Operate Any Schools	RESOLVE 70
LD 1560	An Act To Allow Further Review of the Report Defining Cost Responsibility for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Students Receiving Services from the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf	PUBLIC 347

Not Enacted

LD 595	An Act To Exempt School Administrative Units That Do Not Directly Serve Children with Disabilities from Certain Reporting Requirements	ONTP
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Teachers and Administrators

Enacted

Teachers and Administrators

Enacted

LD 1106 An Act To Develop a Grant Program To Establish a Teacher-led School Model PUBLIC 303

Not Enacted

LD 6 An Act Regarding the Authority of a School Board To Elect a School Superintendent VETO
SUSTAINED

LD 751 An Act To Limit the Effect of Standardized Tests on Teacher Evaluations ONTP

LD 1098 An Act To Encourage Teacher Input in Education Policy LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW

LD 1131 An Act To Improve Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers and Other Public School Employees MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT

LD 1144 An Act To Further Ensure Effective Teaching and School Leadership VETO
SUSTAINED

LD 1330 An Act To Establish in Law a Method for Alternative Certification of Teachers CARRIED OVER

LD 1350 An Act Regarding School Administrator Effectiveness DIED IN
CONCURRENCE

LD 1542 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 180: Performance Evaluation and Professional Growth Systems, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education DIED BETWEEN
HOUSES

LD 1573 An Act To Extend the Authorization for the Maine Education Effectiveness Council VETO
SUSTAINED

Truants, Dropouts and Homeless Students

Not Enacted

LD 1231 An Act To Amend the Compulsory School Attendance Laws VETO
SUSTAINED

Tuition Rates for Non-resident Students

Enacted

LD 1505 An Act Regarding Insured Value Factor Payments for Public Tuition Students Attending a Private School PUBLIC 418

LD INDEX

LD #		Page #
LD 6	-----	Page 1
LD 18	-----	Page 1
LD 25	-----	Page 1
LD 34	-----	Page 2
LD 56	-----	Page 3
LD 61	-----	Page 4
LD 91	-----	Page 4
LD 92	-----	Page 4
LD 93	-----	Page 5
LD 112	-----	Page 5
LD 113	-----	Page 6
LD 130	-----	Page 6
LD 160	-----	Page 7
LD 178	-----	Page 8
LD 193	-----	Page 8
LD 194	-----	Page 9
LD 195	-----	Page 9
LD 233	-----	Page 9
LD 243	-----	Page 9
LD 244	-----	Page 11
LD 299	-----	Page 11
LD 300	-----	Page 12
LD 301	-----	Page 12
LD 322	-----	Page 12
LD 323	-----	Page 13
LD 351	-----	Page 13
LD 367	-----	Page 14
LD 369	-----	Page 14
LD 370	-----	Page 14
LD 383	-----	Page 15
LD 384	-----	Page 15
LD 409	-----	Page 16
LD 417	-----	Page 17
LD 422	-----	Page 17
LD 439	-----	Page 18
LD 442	-----	Page 18
LD 462	-----	Page 19
LD 464	-----	Page 19
LD 466	-----	Page 20
LD 481	-----	Page 20
LD 485	-----	Page 21
LD 521	-----	Page 23
LD 528	-----	Page 23
LD 529	-----	Page 23
LD 530	-----	Page 23
LD 531	-----	Page 25
LD 532	-----	Page 25
LD 533	-----	Page 27
LD 595	-----	Page 27
LD 609	-----	Page 27
LD 615	-----	Page 28
LD 623	-----	Page 28
LD 638	-----	Page 28
LD 665	-----	Page 29

LD 666	-----	Page 29
LD 667	-----	Page 29
LD 668	-----	Page 30
LD 669	-----	Page 31
LD 670	-----	Page 31
LD 671	-----	Page 31
LD 672	-----	Page 32
LD 673	-----	Page 32
LD 699	-----	Page 33
LD 709	-----	Page 33
LD 715	-----	Page 33
LD 723	-----	Page 34
LD 729	-----	Page 34
LD 742	-----	Page 35
LD 750	-----	Page 35
LD 751	-----	Page 35
LD 772	-----	Page 36
LD 773	-----	Page 36
LD 783	-----	Page 36
LD 791	-----	Page 37
LD 792	-----	Page 38
LD 821	-----	Page 38
LD 822	-----	Page 38
LD 823	-----	Page 39
LD 843	-----	Page 39
LD 862	-----	Page 40
LD 868	-----	Page 40
LD 880	-----	Page 40
LD 889	-----	Page 41
LD 905	-----	Page 41
LD 906	-----	Page 42
LD 944	-----	Page 42
LD 959	-----	Page 43
LD 962	-----	Page 43
LD 963	-----	Page 44
LD 994	-----	Page 45
LD 995	-----	Page 45
LD 1002	-----	Page 46
LD 1003	-----	Page 46
LD 1019	-----	Page 46
LD 1027	-----	Page 47
LD 1036	-----	Page 48
LD 1055	-----	Page 48
LD 1056	-----	Page 48
LD 1057	-----	Page 49
LD 1083	-----	Page 50
LD 1093	-----	Page 50
LD 1096	-----	Page 51
LD 1098	-----	Page 52
LD 1100	-----	Page 52
LD 1106	-----	Page 53
LD 1123	-----	Page 54
LD 1128	-----	Page 54
LD 1129	-----	Page 55

LD 1130	-----	Page 56
LD 1131	-----	Page 57
LD 1132	-----	Page 57
LD 1143	-----	Page 58
LD 1144	-----	Page 59
LD 1160	-----	Page 59
LD 1184	-----	Page 60
LD 1185	-----	Page 61
LD 1231	-----	Page 61
LD 1235	-----	Page 62
LD 1241	-----	Page 63
LD 1261	-----	Page 63
LD 1290	-----	Page 63
LD 1291	-----	Page 64
LD 1300	-----	Page 64
LD 1301	-----	Page 66
LD 1321	-----	Page 66
LD 1322	-----	Page 66
LD 1330	-----	Page 67
LD 1332	-----	Page 67
LD 1346	-----	Page 67
LD 1347	-----	Page 68
LD 1349	-----	Page 69
LD 1350	-----	Page 70
LD 1353	-----	Page 70
LD 1361	-----	Page 71
LD 1366	-----	Page 72
LD 1394	-----	Page 72
LD 1412	-----	Page 73
LD 1431	-----	Page 74
LD 1441	-----	Page 74
LD 1481	-----	Page 74
LD 1502	-----	Page 75
LD 1503	-----	Page 75
LD 1505	-----	Page 76
LD 1510	-----	Page 76
LD 1522	-----	Page 77
LD 1524	-----	Page 77
LD 1526	-----	Page 78
LD 1529	-----	Page 78
LD 1530	-----	Page 78
LD 1533	-----	Page 79
LD 1540	-----	Page 80
LD 1542	-----	Page 82
LD 1551	-----	Page 83
LD 1560	-----	Page 84
LD 1566	-----	Page 84
LD 1573	-----	Page 85