

STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

June 2024

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Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

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Community Schools

Not Enacted	LD 1527	An Act to Promote the Community School Program	CARRIED OVER
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	LD 669	An Act to Create the Public Art Fund	CARRIED OVER
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LD 1510	Resolve, to Provide Grants to Promote Innovative Learning Strategies	CARRIED OVER
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Early Childhood and Public Preschool Programs

Not Enacted

LD 948	An Act to Create a Liaison Position Between the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services on Early Childhood Education Matters	Majority (ONTP) Report
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LD 2107 An Act Regarding Department of Education Reliance on Criminal Background Checks Required by the Department of Health and Human Services ONTP

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**Not
Enacted**

LD 345 An Act to Transition the Responsibility for Child Find Activities and for Ensuring a Free, Appropriate Public Education for Eligible Children from the Child Development Services System to School Administrative Units CARRIED OVER

LD 2120 An Act to Fund the Delivery of Educational Services to Children with Special Needs as Required by State and Federal Law in Special Purpose Private Preschools CARRIED OVER

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Enacted**

LD 2042 An Act to Update the Laws Governing Education in the Unorganized Territory HELD BY GOVERNOR

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LD 2286 Resolve, Directing the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to Review Certain Components of General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula RESOLVE 164

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Enacted**

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LD 280 An Act to Make Maine Schools Safer and Healthier by Increasing the Maximum Debt Service Limit CARRIED OVER

LD 808 An Act to Amend the Pupil Counts Used for Determination of School Administrative Unit Operating Costs HELD BY GOVERNOR

LD 829 An Act to Improve Behavioral Health Support for Students in Public Schools CARRIED OVER

LD 974 An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff CARRIED OVER

LD 1402 An Act Regarding Unobligated Balances from Amounts Appropriated for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and to Require Annual Reports on School Demographics CARRIED OVER

LD 1942 An Act to Ensure Equity in Career and Technical Education Staffing Support Ratios Across Varied Regions of the State CARRIED OVER

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Not Enacted	LD 348	An Act to Make Menstrual Products Available in Certain Schools	CARRIED OVER
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	LD 1128	An Act to Address Student Hunger and Nutrition Through Expanded Access to Free Milk in Schools	CARRIED OVER
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	LD 2002	An Act to Provide Grants to Schools That Contract for Behavioral and Mental Health Services	CARRIED OVER
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	LD 2107	An Act Regarding Department of Education Reliance on Criminal Background Checks Required by the Department of Health and Human Services	ONTP
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Postsecondary Education - General

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	LD 2092	An Act Regarding Public Higher Education Funding in the State	CARRIED OVER

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	LD 2170	An Act to Prioritize School Construction Projects for Schools Affected by Disasters	ONTP

LD 2285 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Establish the Commission to Study School Construction Policy and Funding CARRIED OVER

School Support Staff

**Not
Enacted**

LD 974 An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff CARRIED OVER

LD 1769 An Act Concerning Students Who Experience Educational Disruption Due to Temporary or Permanent Changes Where They Live CARRIED OVER

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Enacted

LD 2180 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty-Two, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education RESOLVE 173

**Not
Enacted**

LD 154 An Act Regarding Special Education Funding for So-called Minimum Receiver School Administration Units CARRIED OVER

Student Privacy

**Not
Enacted**

LD 1333 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Report on School Internet and Student Data Collection Best Practices CARRIED OVER

Teacher Certification and Professional Development

**Not
Enacted**

LD 335 An Act to Improve Educator Certification Response Times CARRIED OVER

LD 1217 Resolve, to Create a Pilot Program for Alternative Teacher Certification ONTP

Teachers and Administrators

Enacted

LD 1898 An Act to Ensure That a Teacher Who Participates in the Prevention of Dangerous Behavior Is Protected Under a Collective Bargaining Agreement PUBLIC 493

**Not
Enacted**

LD 1064 An Act to Increase the Minimum Teacher Salary CARRIED OVER

LD 1491 An Act to Establish a Teacher Shortage Coordinator CARRIED OVER

LD 1773 An Act to Increase the State's Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers CARRIED OVER

Workforce Development and Career Options

**Not
Enacted**

LD 142 An Act to Fund Climate-related Service Work CARRIED OVER

LD 143 An Act to Support Rural Service Programming and Promote Volunteerism CARRIED OVER

LD 2231 Resolve, to Promote Access to Education and Workforce Development by Transferring Ownership of the Hutchinson Center Property in Belfast to the City of Belfast Majority (ONTP) Report

DIGEST OF BILLS
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Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs

Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
EDU	19	An Act to Authorize the National Institute of Funeral Service to Grant Associate Degrees	ONTP	1/31/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
EDU	142	An Act to Fund Climate-related Service Work	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/19/2023				
EDU	143	An Act to Support Rural Service Programming and Promote Volunteerism	OTP-AM/ONTP	3/10/2023				
EDU	154	An Act Regarding Special Education Funding for So-called Minimum Receiver School Administration Units	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/17/2023				
EDU	254	An Act to Provide Funds for Comprehensive Family Life Education Services	OTP-AM/ONTP	2/21/2024				
EDU	273	An Act to Provide Funds to the Malaga 1912 Scholarship Fund	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/5/2023				
EDU	280	An Act to Make Maine Schools Safer and Healthier by Increasing the Maximum Debt Service Limit	OTP-AM	5/5/2023				
EDU	335	An Act to Improve Educator Certification Response Times	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/16/2023				
EDU	345	An Act to Transition the Responsibility for Child Find Activities and for Ensuring a Free, Appropriate Public Education for Eligible Children from the Child Development Services System to School Administrative Units	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/9/2024				v
EDU	348	An Act to Make Menstrual Products Available in Certain Schools	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/12/2023				
EDU	447	An Act to Support Higher Education in Maine by Providing Funds to Maine's Community Colleges	OTP-AM/ONTP	4/28/2023				
EDU	512	An Act to Promote Student Enrollment and Degree Completion in the University of Maine System by Providing Tuition Waivers to Eligible Students	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/2/2023				
EDU	669	An Act to Create the Public Art Fund	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/26/2023				

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
EDU	808	An Act to Amend the Pupil Counts Used for Determination of School Administrative Unit Operating Costs	OTP-AM	3/22/2024	Held by Governor			
EDU	829	An Act to Improve Behavioral Health Support for Students in Public Schools	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/2/2023				
EDU	871	An Act to Provide Support for the Maine Discovery Museum's Informal Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education Programs Throughout the State	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/5/2023				
EDU	948	An Act to Create a Liaison Position Between the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services on Early Childhood Education Matters	ONTP/OTP-AM	6/2/2023	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			
EDU	957	An Act Requiring Water Bottle Filling Stations in New and Renovated Public Schools	OTP-AM	6/8/2023	Enacted	PL	492	
EDU	974	An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff	OTP-AM	4/5/2024				v
EDU	1028	An Act to Expand the Higher Education Tuition Waiver for Persons Who Have Resided in Foster Care	OTP-AM	5/31/2023				
EDU	1064	An Act to Increase the Minimum Teacher Salary	OTP-AM	6/5/2023				
EDU	1128	An Act to Address Student Hunger and Nutrition Through Expanded Access to Free Milk in Schools	OTP-AM/OTP-AM	6/8/2023				
EDU	1139	An Act to Improve Ferry Service Reliability by Providing Scholarships at the Maine Maritime Academy	OTP-AM	6/21/2023				
EDU	1217	Resolve, to Create a Pilot Program for Alternative Teacher Certification	ONTP	2/14/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
EDU	1263	An Act to Require Certain School Identification Cards to Include the Telephone Number of a Suicide and Crisis Hotline	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/20/2023	Enacted	PL	561	
EDU	1284	Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Education to Review the Placement of Personal Finance in the System of Learning Results	OTP-AM	2/16/2024	Finally Passed	RESLV	135	
EDU	1333	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Report on School Internet and Student Data Collection Best Practices	OTP-AM	6/5/2023				

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
EDU	1402	An Act Regarding Unobligated Balances from Amounts Appropriated for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and to Require Annual Reports on School Demographics	OTP-AM	3/22/2024				
EDU	1421	Resolve, to Provide Funds to the Maine Indian Education School District	OTP-AM/ONTP	2/16/2024				
EDU	1491	An Act to Establish a Teacher Shortage Coordinator	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/6/2023				
EDU	1510	Resolve, to Provide Grants to Promote Innovative Learning Strategies	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/8/2023				
EDU	1520	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services to Study Placing Child Care Facilities in Schools	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/5/2023				
EDU	1527	An Act to Promote the Community School Program	OTP-AM/ONTP	5/31/2023				
EDU	1642	An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools	OTP-AM/ONTP	2/26/2024	Enacted	PL	537	
EDU	1769	An Act Concerning Students Who Experience Educational Disruption Due to Temporary or Permanent Changes Where They Live	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/5/2023				
EDU	1773	An Act to Increase the State's Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers	OTP-AM	2/21/2024				
EDU	1898	An Act to Ensure That a Teacher Who Participates in the Prevention of Dangerous Behavior Is Protected Under a Collective Bargaining Agreement	OTP-AM/ONTP	6/14/2023	Enacted	PL	493	
EDU	1942	An Act to Ensure Equity in Career and Technical Education Staffing Support Ratios Across Varied Regions of the State	OTP-AM	6/21/2023				
EDU	2001	Resolve, to Establish the African American and Wabanaki Studies Advisory Council and Provide Funding to Support African American Studies and Wabanaki Studies	OTP-AM/ONTP	2/21/2024				
EDU	2002	An Act to Provide Grants to Schools That Contract for Behavioral and Mental Health Services	OTP-AM/ONTP	3/22/2024				
EDU	2042	An Act to Update the Laws Governing Education in the Unorganized Territory	OTP-AM	3/22/2024	Held by Governor			

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
EDU	2089	An Act Regarding Drug Awareness Instruction in Secondary Schools	OTP-AM	3/22/2024	Enacted	PL	601	
EDU	2092	An Act Regarding Public Higher Education Funding in the State	OTP-AM/OTP-AM	4/1/2024				
EDU	2107	An Act Regarding Department of Education Reliance on Criminal Background Checks Required by the Department of Health and Human Services	ONTP	2/28/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
EDU	2118	An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics	OTP-AM/ONTP	3/22/2024				
EDU	2120	An Act to Fund the Delivery of Educational Services to Children with Special Needs as Required by State and Federal Law in Special Purpose Private Preschools	OTP-AM	3/25/2024				
EDU	2131	An Act to Support Extended Learning Opportunities	OTP	3/11/2024	Enacted	PL	566	
EDU	2166	An Act to Establish a Grant Program to Increase Postsecondary Educational Opportunities for Students with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder	OTP-AM	3/27/2024				
EDU	2170	An Act to Prioritize School Construction Projects for Schools Affected by Disasters	ONTP	2/28/2024	Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			
EDU	2179	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank	OTP	2/28/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	144	
EDU	2180	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty-Two, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education	OTP-AM	3/22/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	173	

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Comm	LD	Title	Committee Action	Date of last Comm Action	Disposition upon R2 Adjournment	Law	Ch	Analyst Note?
EDU	2181	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 Department of Education, State Board of Education	OTP	2/26/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	141	
EDU	2182	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education	OTP-AM	3/22/2024	Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	167	
EDU	2221	Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Amend Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education	OTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	137	
EDU	2231	Resolve, to Promote Access to Education and Workforce Development by Transferring Ownership of the Hutchinson Center Property in Belfast to the City of Belfast	ONTP/OTP-AM	3/28/2024	Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			
EDU	2257	An Act to Allow School Administrative District No. 52 to Issue Temporary Notes for a Wastewater Treatment Project	OTP	3/20/2024	Emergency Enacted	P&S	20	
EDU	2285	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Establish the Commission to Study School Construction Policy and Funding	OTP					
EDU	2286	Resolve, Directing the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to Review Certain Components of General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula	OTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	164	

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

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

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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

LD 2089 An Act Regarding Drug Awareness Instruction in Secondary Schools

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

LD 2131 An Act to Support Extended Learning Opportunities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

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

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LD 2179 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank

Resolve 2023, chapter 144 authorizes final adoption of portions of rule Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund.

Resolve 2023, chapter 144 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 19, 2024.

LD 2180 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty-Two, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 173 authorizes final adoption of portions of rule Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty-Two, and provides that the Department of Education may make grammatical, formatting, punctuation and other technical, nonsubstantive editing changes to the rule as necessary prior to final adoption.

Resolve 2023, chapter 173 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 22, 2024.

LD 2181 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 Department of Education, State Board of Education

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 141 authorizes final adoption of portions of rule Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

Resolve 2023, chapter 141 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 14, 2024.

LD 2182 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 167 provides that final adoption of portions of rule Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, which includes the content areas of science, technology, and engineering standards and social studies standards, is not authorized.

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Resolve 2023, chapter 167 also directs the Department of Education to initiate rulemaking on the portion of the department's rule Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction that provides the parameters for instruction for the content area of social studies and submit a provisionally adopted rule to the Legislature in the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature for review. The department is permitted to adjust the content areas subject to review and submission to the Legislature in the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature as necessary to accomplish the review of the social studies standards.

Resolve 2023, chapter 167 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 13, 2024.

LD 2221 Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Amend Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 137 directs the State Board of Education to amend its rule Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a major substantive rule of the State Board of Education, and submit the provisionally adopted rule to the 132nd Legislature for review.

LD 2257 An Act to Allow School Administrative District No. 52 to Issue Temporary Notes for a Wastewater Treatment Project

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 20 extends the time period in which School Administrative Unit No. 52 may issue temporary notes to finance a wastewater treatment plant, which was unexpectedly delayed due to the COVID-19 emergency and difficulties locating a suitable site for subsurface disposal.

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 20 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 28, 2024.

LD 2286 Resolve, Directing the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to Review Certain Components of General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 164 directs the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, in conjunction with the Department of Education, to conduct a targeted review of certain components of general purpose aid for local schools and a review of components of the essential programs and services funding formula that have been identified as driving inequity within the formula. In conducting

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its reviews, the Maine Education Policy Research Institute is required to include stakeholder representatives and recommend potential adjustments to the funding formula to be modeled by the Department of Education.

Resolve 2023, chapter 164 also directs the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, in conjunction with the department, to assess the statutorily required review of the essential programs and services components and make recommendations regarding improvements to the review process, including, but not limited to, the established timeline and opportunities for stakeholder engagement.

Resolve 2023, chapter 164 directs the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters no later than March 15, 2025.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

ANALYST NOTES

This section includes additional information relating to certain LDs as noted in a committee digest. This is information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this Digest; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance.

LD 345 An Act to Transition the Responsibility for Child Find Activities and for Ensuring a Free, Appropriate Public Education for Eligible Children from the Child Development Services System to School Administrative Units

Although this bill was not enacted, the substantive provisions of the bill were incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 643, the supplemental budget bill enacted in the Second Regular Session. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 2214, Part W.

LD 974 An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff

Although this bill was not enacted, substantive provisions of the bill setting the minimum hourly wage for educational technicians and other school support staff at 125% and 115% of the State minimum hourly wage, respectively, were incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 643, the supplemental budget bill enacted in the Second Regular Session, See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 2214, Part G.

