

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

July 2007

MEMBERS:

SEN. MARGARET ROTUNDO, CHAIR
SEN. JOHN L. MARTIN
SEN. KARL W. TURNER

REP. JEREMY R. FISCHER, CHAIR
REP. MARGARET M. CRAVEN
REP. JANET T. MILLS
REP. EMILY ANN CAIN
REP. LINDA M. VALENTINO
REP. DAVID C. WEBSTER
REP. H. SAWIN MILLETT, JR.
REP. PATRICK S. A. FLOOD
REP. JOHN C. ROBINSON
REP. JAYNE CROSBY GILES

STAFF:

JAMES K. DIONNE, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207)287-1635

STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

CON RES XXX.....	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....	Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES.....	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE.....	One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY.....	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT.....	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX.....	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 218 **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Municipal High-speed Internet Access** **ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$2,000,000, will be used to provide matching funds to communities to build the infrastructure necessary to provide high-speed Internet access to underserved areas of the State.

LD 244 **An Act To Provide Additional Funding for the Office of Substance Abuse** **ONTP**

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

This bill provides additional funding of \$150,000 in each year of the biennium for the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse.

LD 247 **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fight Global Warming through Energy Conservation** **ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$100,000,000, will be used to fight global warming through energy conservation.

LD 248 **Resolve, Honoring Women Veterans of Maine** **RESOLVE 141
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL	OTP	S-359 ROTUNDO

This resolve provides initial funding to begin construction of the Women Veterans Monument as recommended by the Commission to Arrange for a Monument Honoring Women Veterans of Maine.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-359)

This amendment removes the General Fund appropriation and requires the State Controller to transfer \$10,000 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Buildings and Grounds Operations, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services by June 30, 2008.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 141 provides initial funding of \$10,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to begin construction of the Women Veterans Monument. This funding is provided through a transfer from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Buildings and Grounds Operations, Other Special Revenue Funds account within

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

the Department of Administrative and Financial Services by June 30, 2008.

Resolve 2007, chapter 141 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 29, 2007.

LD 269 An Act To Retire the Mortgage of York County Community College ONTP

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

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$3,710,633 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the Maine Community College System to retire the mortgage of the York County Community College. This bill also deappropriates \$400,000 of the \$1,600,000 in ongoing General Fund appropriations provided in Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 69 to the Maine Community College System beginning in fiscal year 2006-07 for general operating expenses. These funds were provided to cover the mortgage fee that would otherwise be paid by York County Community College students and will no longer be needed once the mortgage is retired.

LD 291 An Act To Expand Workforce Development Programs ONTP

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

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$250,000 per year for the Maine Community College System's Maine Quality Centers program to expand the current program to create more new jobs in Maine and to offset fees for incumbent retraining.

LD 292 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Help Construct a Recreation Center for the City of Presque Isle ONTP

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$500,000, will be used to help construct a recreation center for the City of Presque Isle through its Department of Parks and Recreation.

LD 304 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Projects for the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RECTOR TURNER	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$40,000,000, will be used for capital projects for the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.