

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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 LEGAL AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

July 2007

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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 Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 458

An Act To Prevent Persons Convicted of Child Molestation from Being Buried in a Maine Veterans' Cemetery

ONTP

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

This bill amends the law governing burials at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System. It would prohibit the burial of a person in a cemetery of the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery System if that person has been convicted by a court in Maine, or in any other state, provincial or federal court of a sexual crime against a minor.

LD 475

An Act To Prevent Additional Housing Charges for Persons Requiring In-home Care

PUBLIC 387

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARRACHE	OTP-AM	S-280

This bill prohibits a landlord from charging additional rent or utilities from a tenant for a provider of in-home and community services.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-280)

This amendment provides that a landlord may request a letter from the Department of Health and Human Services to verify that a tenant is eligible for the use of in-home or community support services. This amendment also adds a provision to repeal the section of law enacted in this legislation effective January 1, 2009.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 387 provides that a landlord may request a letter from the Department of Health and Human Services to verify that a tenant is eligible for the use of in-home or community support services. The law includes a sunset provision to repeal this section of law effective January 1, 2009.

LD 490

An Act To Clarify Reporting of Contributions and Expenditures by Persons Involving a Ballot Question

ONTP

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

This bill amends the reporting requirement for a person engaged in political activity from a person who solicits and receives or makes expenditures aggregating in excess of \$1,500 in regards to a ballot question to a person who expressly advocates or purchases political advertising in regards to a ballot question.

The proposal in this bill is being considered with LD 1394 which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.