

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

July 2011

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COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

LD 797 An Act To Reform the Election Laws

**LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW**

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

Current law authorizes citizens of the State to register to vote on election day. This bill repeals that provision and instead requires that citizens of the State register to vote no later than seven days preceding the election in order to vote in that election. The bill also requires that a person provide proof of citizenship to register to vote. This bill also requires that a voter provide proof of identity with documentation approved by the Secretary of State by rule. This bill also prohibits a municipal clerk from issuing a second state absentee ballot to an applicant after a ballot has been returned by the applicant to the clerk, except for good cause, and stipulates that an applicant's decision to change a vote does not constitute good cause.

LD 798 An Act To Prohibit Nonresidents from Contributing to Maine Political Campaigns or Candidates

ONTP

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

This bill requires that contributions to candidate and ballot measure campaigns may only come from residents of this State or organizations that are incorporated in this State.

LD 814 An Act Relating to Political Action Committees in Maine

**MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill limits the amount a person, other than a political action committee, may contribute to a political action committee during a two-year election cycle; limits the aggregate amount that a person, other than a political action committee, may give to candidate political action committees during a two-year election cycle; and limits the amount that political action committees may give to candidate political action committees during a two-year election cycle. The bill defines "candidate political action committee" as a political action committee that makes contributions or expenditures for the purpose of promoting, supporting, opposing or defeating the nomination or election of any person to political office.