

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE,  
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

July 2011

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STATE OF MAINE  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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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 125<sup>th</sup> 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 125<sup>th</sup> 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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development**

**LD 1117      Resolve, To Require the Commissioner of Labor To Convene a Stakeholder Group To Determine the Most Appropriate Amount of Time an Employer May Employ an Employee without Being Subject to Unemployment Compensation Requirements      RESOLVE 85**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-271

This bill changes from five weeks to eight weeks the amount of time an employer may employ an employee without being charged for unemployment benefits.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-271)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill, makes the bill a resolve and directs the Commissioner of Labor to establish a stakeholder group to determine the most appropriate amount of time an employer may employ an employee without the employer being subject to unemployment compensation requirements.

**Committee Amendment "B" (H-272)**

This amendment, which is the minority report, changes from eight weeks to seven weeks the amount of time an employer may employ an employee without the employer being charged for unemployment benefits. This amendment was not adopted.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2011, chapter 85 directs the Commissioner of Labor to establish a stakeholder group to determine the most appropriate amount of time an employer may employ an employee without the employer being subject to unemployment compensation requirements.

**LD 1127      An Act To Amend the Authority of the Washington County Development Authority      PUBLIC 136 EMERGENCY**

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

This bill grants to the Washington County Development Authority the same authority given to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority to borrow money and issue bonds.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 136 grants to the Washington County Development Authority the authority to borrow money and issue bonds.

Public Law 2011, chapter 136 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 25, 2011.