

# 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 INSURANCE AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

July 2011

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**STAFF:**

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

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 Insurance and Financial Services*

This bill requires dental insurers and health insurers and health maintenance organizations that include coverage for dental services in their policies and contracts to provide coverage for dental services performed by a dentist if those services would be covered under the policy or contract and those services are within the lawful scope of practice of the dentist. The bill applies to all individual and group policies and contracts issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2012.

**LD 1243      Resolve, To Direct the Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection To      RESOLVE 34**  
**Recommend Changes to Credit Reporting Laws Concerning Paid Debts**

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

This resolve directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection to review the credit reporting debt collection laws specifically concerning debtors whose credit reports do not correctly reflect the payment of debt. The bureau is directed to submit its findings, recommendations and suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services, which is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2011, chapter 34 directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection to review the credit reporting debt collection laws specifically concerning debtors whose credit reports do not correctly reflect the payment of debt. The bureau is directed to submit its findings, recommendations and suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services, which is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

**LD 1251      An Act To Prevent Credit Card Company Unfair Trade Practices      ONTP**

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

This bill prohibits electronic payment systems from imposing certain restrictions on merchants relating to the acceptance of credit cards, charge cards, debit cards or other stored-value cards as payment for goods and services.

**LD 1279      An Act Relating to Qualified Financial Contracts by Domestic Insurers      PUBLIC 107**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON W	OTP	H-128 RICHARDSON W

This bill conforms the chapter in the Maine Insurance Code regarding delinquent insurers to Section 711 of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Insurer Receivership Model Act regarding netting of qualified