

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

August 2015

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# STATE OF MAINE

127<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* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 127<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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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 Environment and Natural Resources*

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 319 combines current provisions of law related to the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund and the Maine Coastal and Inland Surface Oil Clean-up Fund. It streamlines administration of oil clean-up funds and stabilizes funding for clean-up activities. It improves government administration by combining two boards with expertise in oil spill prevention and cleanup and responsibility for fund oversight into one, and it streamlines fee requirements from two separate amounts for each product type into one.

Public Law 2015, chapter 319 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 4, 2015.

**LD 1359      An Act To Assist Municipalities with the Recycling of Solid Waste by      ONTP**  
**Allowing Net Electrical Billing Credits**

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

This bill provides that a municipality that operates a program of solid waste reuse, reduction, recycling and composting may send municipal solid waste to a waste-to-energy facility and receive credits on the municipality's electricity bill for the electricity that is generated from the incineration of the municipal solid waste.

**LD 1366      An Act To Promote Recycling Program Integration and Efficiencies      PUBLIC 166**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO CAMPBELL R	OTP-AM ONTP	S-169

This bill transfers administration of the provisions regarding returnable beverage containers from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to the Department of Environmental Protection.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-169)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, makes a number of minor corrections to the bill, including the correction of a statutory cross-reference. It also changes a reference to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to the Department of Environmental Protection.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 166 transfers administration of the provisions regarding returnable beverage containers from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to the Department of Environmental Protection.

**LD 1427      Resolve, Regarding the Department of Environmental Protection's Rule      RESOLVE 22**  
**Chapter 500: Stormwater Management      EMERGENCY**

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

This resolve is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Order S.P. 528. It provides for final adoption by the Department of Environmental Protection of portions of Rule Chapter 500: Stormwater Management, a major substantive rule of the department that was submitted for

***Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources***

legislative review on January 8, 2015 and approved for final adoption by the Legislature pursuant to Resolve 2015, chapter 12, effective April 29, 2015. It corrects an inadvertent omission from Resolve 2015, chapter 12 and provides for final adoption of the rule chapter in accordance with Resolve 2015, chapter 12 as amended by this resolve, as long as final adoption occurs within 60 days of the effective date of this resolve.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2015, chapter 22 provides for final adoption by the Department of Environmental Protection of portions of Rule Chapter 500: Stormwater Management, a major substantive rule of the department that was submitted for legislative review on January 8, 2015 and approved for final adoption by the Legislature pursuant to Resolve 2015, chapter 12, effective April 29, 2015. This resolve corrects an inadvertent omission from Resolve 2015, chapter 12 and provides for final adoption of the rule chapter in accordance with Resolve 2015, chapter 12 as amended by this resolve, as long as final adoption occurs within 60 days of the effective date of this resolve.

Resolve 2015, chapter 22 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 9, 2015.

**LD 1435     An Act Regarding Ethanol-free Motor Fuel**

**PUBLIC 143**

Sponsor(s)

O'CONNOR

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill clarifies that a motor fuel distributor, franchisor or refiner may not impose any condition, restriction, agreement or understanding that prohibits or limits the sale, resale, transfer or purchase of conventional, ethanol-free motor fuel products in the State on a prospective basis.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 143 clarifies that a motor fuel distributor, franchisor or refiner may not impose any condition, restriction, agreement or understanding that prohibits or limits the sale, resale, transfer or purchase of conventional, ethanol-free motor fuel products in the State on a prospective basis.