

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

August 2015

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH 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 127th 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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & 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 127th 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 1451 An Act To Fund the Agreement with Certain Judicial Department Employees

**PUBLIC 333
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

HAMPER
ROTUNDO

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill authorizes funding of the collective bargaining agreements reached by the Judicial Department and the four bargaining units representing Judicial Department employees.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 333 authorizes funding of the collective bargaining agreements reached by the Judicial Department and the four bargaining units representing Judicial Department employees.

LD 1452 An Act To Make Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Legislation

PUBLIC 328

Sponsor(s)

MCCORMICK

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill does the following:

1. Adds Language to the reporting requirements contained in the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program;
2. Makes a technical change to the statute related to tax expenditure reviews;
3. Adds language to income tax changes in the Biennial Budget, Public Law 2015, chapter 267, Part DD (LD 1019) to include language that was inadvertently omitted by updating language to reflect changes to the income tax exemption for pensions, correcting amounts for 2016 tax years for the base credit under the sales tax fairness credit and specifying that the refundability of the earned income tax credit applies only to residents and part-year residents of the State;
4. Amends the laws governing the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program; and
5. Corrects certain appropriations and allocations contained in the Biennial Budget, Public Law 2015, chapter 267 (LD 1019).

This bill was not referred to a committee.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 328 does the following:

1. Adds Language to the reporting requirements contained in the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program;
2. Makes a technical change to the statute related to tax expenditure reviews;

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

- 3. Adds language to income tax changes in Public Law 2015, chapter 267, Part DD (LD 1019) to include language that was inadvertently omitted by updating language to reflect changes to the income tax exemption for pensions, correcting amounts for 2016 tax years for the base credit under the sales tax fairness credit and specifying that the refundability of the earned income tax credit applies only to residents and part-year residents of the State;
- 4. Amends the laws governing the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program; and
- 5. Corrects certain appropriations and allocations contained in Public Law 2015, chapter 267 (LD 1019) as enacted.

**LD 1453 An Act To Fund Agreements with Bargaining Units for Certain
Executive Branch Employees and Ensure Equitable Treatment for
Other Executive Branch Employees**

**PUBLIC 376
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
WINSOR

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill implements the cost items in the collective bargaining agreements reached between the State and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Maine State Troopers Association and the Maine State Law Enforcement Association and, if tentative agreements are ratified, the Maine State Employees Association and provides for equitable treatment for confidential employees and certain other employees excluded from collective bargaining.

The bill specifies the costs from the General Fund and Highway Fund to fund salary increases and authorizes the transfer by financial order of available General Fund and Highway Fund balances as necessary; provides for the adjustment of certain salary schedules in fiscal year 2015-16 and in fiscal year 2016-17; and provides for similar and equitable treatment of confidential employees, probationary employees and other employees excluded from collective bargaining.

This bill was not referred to a committee.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 376 implements the cost items in the collective bargaining agreements reached between the State and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Maine State Troopers Association and the Maine State Law Enforcement Association and, if tentative agreements are ratified, the Maine State Employees Association and provides for equitable treatment for confidential employees and certain other employees excluded from collective bargaining.

The bill specifies the costs from the General Fund and Highway Fund to fund salary increases and authorizes the transfer by financial order of available General Fund and Highway Fund balances as necessary; provides for the adjustment of certain salary schedules in fiscal year 2015-16 and in fiscal year 2016-17; and provides for similar and equitable treatment of confidential employees, probationary employees and other employees excluded from collective bargaining.

Public Law 2015, chapter 376 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 17, 2015.