

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

May 2016

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STAFF:

DANIEL TARTAKOFF, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>

STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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 Second 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.

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 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 127th Legislature is July 29, 2016. 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

LD 1566 An Act Concerning the Establishment of Water Levels

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

ONTP

This bill was reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to Public Law 2015, chapter 264, section 5 and then referred back to the committee for processing in the normal course.

This bill amends the laws governing the establishment of water levels to require the parties named in a petition or request to establish a water level regime and, if applicable, minimum flow requirements to engage in mediation prior to the Department of Environmental Protection initiating an adjudicatory hearing to resolve the dispute. The bill also provides that if the department holds an adjudicatory hearing to resolve the dispute, it may charge the parties named in the petition or request an appropriate licensing fee, not to exceed \$20,000, to cover the department's costs in conducting the hearing. The department is directed to apportion such licensing fees equitably among the parties named in a petition or request.

LD 1568 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 373: Financial and Technical Capacity Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

**RESOLVE 62
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

OTP

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 373: Financial and Technical Capacity Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 62 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 373: Financial and Technical Capacity Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Resolve 2015, chapter 62 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 16, 2016.

LD 1569 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 375: No Adverse Environmental Effect Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

**RESOLVE 63
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

OTP

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 375: No Adverse Environmental Effect Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection.