

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

August 2017

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\*Committee member for a portion of the session

# STATE OF MAINE

128<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 128<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.

*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 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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 Health and Human Services*

**LD 464**      **Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Facilitate the Scheduling of Transportation for Persons with Disabilities**      **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>  | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| VOLK A<br>MALABY R | ONTP                    |                           |

This resolve directs the Office of Aging and Disability Services within the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and maintain an accessible central database of transportation provider information and implement a statewide mobile application to facilitate the scheduling of transportation services for individuals with disabilities.

**LD 470**      **An Act To Strengthen Maine's Hospitals and Increase Access to Health Care**      **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DEVIN M           |                         |                           |

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill, which would be contingent upon approval by the voters of the State at referendum, proposes to enact measures designed to increase access to health care for citizens of the State and strengthen Maine's hospitals.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 476**      **An Act To Clarify the Authority for Cremation**      **PUBLIC 70**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>    | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| STANLEY S<br>DAVIS P | OTP<br>OTP-AM           |                           |

This bill clarifies that a funeral director or practitioner of funeral service with custody of abandoned remains or an abandoned dead body has the option to bury or cremate those remains or that dead body.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-84)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It prohibits a funeral director or practitioner of funeral service from cremating abandoned remains or an abandoned dead body if the funeral director or practitioner of funeral service has knowledge that cremation conflicts with the deceased person's religious tenets and practices.

This amendment was not adopted.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 70 clarifies that a funeral director or practitioner of funeral service with custody of abandoned remains or an abandoned dead body has the option to bury or cremate those remains or that dead body.