

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

August 2017

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STAFF:

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

*Committee member for a portion of the session

STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 128th 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 128th 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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

This bill requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Maine Board of Pharmacy to convene a work group to propose updates to the Maine Pharmacy Act and submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development. The joint standing committee may report out a bill concerning the report to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

LD 656 An Act To Improve the Ability of Maine Companies To Manufacture and Market Biobased Products

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL J TIPPING R	OTP-AM ONTP	S-43

The bill provides a one-time appropriation of \$1,500,000 to the Maine Technology Institute to provide competitive grants for the development, production and marketing of bioplastics.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-43)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It specifies that the grants are for the development, production and marketing of biobased products.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to the next special or regular session of the 128th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, S.P. 601.

LD 661 An Act Regarding the Chain of Custody in Crematories

PUBLIC 101

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T MARTIN J	OTP-AM	S-60

This bill requires crematories to prepare signed and dated certificates of cremation certifying the identity of the human remains and to present this certificate to the funeral director or other authorized person. The bill further requires crematories to label the container containing human remains with the name of the person who was cremated.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-60)

This amendment:

1. Retains the requirement in the bill that crematories label the container containing cremated remains with the name of the deceased person;
2. Retains the requirement in the bill that crematories prepare a certificate of cremation in order to identify the remains that were cremated but allows crematories to rely on the funeral director or authorized person's identification of the remains prior to cremation; and
3. Requires, whenever cremated remains are buried in a public burying ground, that the person in charge of the public burying ground endorse and provide the date that the cremated remains were buried on the permit for final disposition issued by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics or the clerk of the municipality in which the public burial ground is located.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

Public Law 2017, chapter 101 requires, whenever cremated remains are buried in a public burying ground, that the person in charge of the public burying ground endorse and provide the date that the cremated remains were buried on the permit for final disposition issued by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics or the clerk of the municipality in which the public burial ground is located.

Public Law 2017, chapter 101 also requires crematories to prepare signed and dated certificates of cremation identifying the remains that were cremated and to label the container containing cremated remains with the name of the deceased person.

**LD 669 An Act To Address the Unmet Workforce Needs of Employers and To
Improve the Economic Future of Workers**

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R PIERCE J		

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

This bill proposes to enact a comprehensive package of proposals designed to address the unmet workforce needs of employers and to improve the economic future of workers. These proposals may include, but are not limited to, proposals to:

1. Identify workforce needs;
2. Connect businesses with trained workers;
3. Maximize the benefits of educational assessment funding by focusing the funds on the students;
4. Provide incentives for educational institutions receiving state training funds to place graduates into the employment or school of the graduates' choice;
5. Strengthen the ability of the Maine Quality Centers, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 12725, to fulfill their mission of meeting the workforce education and training needs of new and expanding businesses in the State and providing new employment and career advancement opportunities for Maine people;
6. Design diverse programs to meet the needs of Maine employers;
7. Prepare untrained workers to meet immediate and long-term needs;
8. Allow military training to count towards required training for certain certifications and licenses;
9. Establish a clearinghouse to connect workers with employers;
10. Identify educational programs necessary for specific types of employment and create a process to preemploy prospective workers while they are being trained;
11. Provide to people receiving public assistance the opportunity to permanently leave poverty behind by providing skills training that offers academic degrees, certifications or credentials and leads to employment with wages that can sustain families;
12. Establish workforce training programs targeted exclusively at individuals who are on public assistance or whose incomes meet certain criteria and provide transitional benefits including child care, health care, transportation