

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

August 2017

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# 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**LD 1044 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Eligibility for Disability Retirement Benefits**

**Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R	OTP-AM ONTP	S-89

This bill amends the laws governing eligibility for disability retirement benefits. Current law provides that former state employees are not eligible for state disability retirement benefits if they were not disabled on their last day of state service. Under this bill, former state employees who are not disabled on their last day of state service and are ineligible for federal social security disability benefits would be eligible for state disability retirement benefits if they prevail in or settle a claim brought under the State's Whistleblowers' Protection Act.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-89)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that the period of service for a person who might be eligible for disability retirement benefits under the bill's provision ends as of the date of any settlement agreement pursuant to a claim brought under the State's Whistleblowers' Protection Act.

**LD 1045 An Act To Create More Transparency in the Setting of Normal Teacher Retirement Costs**

**Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R KORNFIELD T	OTP-AM	S-59

This bill requires the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to prepare and present an actuarial report on normal teacher retirement costs to a joint meeting of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs matters by May 31st of even-numbered years. It also requires the board to rely on this biennial actuarial report in its determination of the percentage of total teacher compensation required to fund normal teacher retirement costs.

This bill also requires the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs to conduct a review of the historical and projected future actuarial value of normal teacher retirement costs. It requires the committee to report the results of its review to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-59)**

This amendment changes the reporting date for the Maine Public Employees Retirement System's actuarial report required in the bill from May 31st of even-numbered years to July 31st, beginning in 2018.

**LD 1118 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Local Infrastructure**

**CARRIED OVER**

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