

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

August 2019

MEMBERS:

SEN. JAMES F. DILL, CHAIR
SEN. G. WILLIAM DIAMOND
SEN. RUSSELL BLACK

REP. CRAIG V. HICKMAN, CHAIR
REP. DAVID HAROLD MCCREA
REP. MARGARET M. O'NEIL
REP. CHLOE S. MAXMIN
REP. TIFFANY ROBERTS-LOVELL
REP. MARYANNE KINNEY
REP. THOMAS H. SKOLFIELD
REP. RANDALL C. HALL
REP. THEODORE JOSEPH KRYZAK, JR.
REP. WILLIAM D. PLUECKER

STAFF:

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

STATE OF MAINE

129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST 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 First Regular Session of the 129th 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 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

12.86-acre parcel conveyed pursuant to this resolve. A violation of this covenant results in the immediate reversion of the parcel to the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2019, chapter 80 requires the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to offer to convey, by quitclaim deed with covenant to Roosevelt Conference Center doing business as Eagle Lake Sporting Camps, a 12.86-acre parcel of land in Township 16, Range 6. If Eagle Lake Sporting Camps accepts the offer, the resolve requires the director at the State's expense and the purchaser at the purchaser's expense to each obtain a professional appraisal of the property and the higher of the two appraisals is the sale price. The resolve also stipulates that the use of the property is restricted to the operation of a commercial sporting camp, in keeping with the historical traditions of the area in general and particularly of this property. The resolve provides that if the property is no longer used for the purpose of a commercial sporting camp, title to the property reverts to the State without cost and any buildings that occupy the site must be removed by the property owner at the property owner's own cost.

LD 127 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Maine Potato Board Districts

PUBLIC 6

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN D JACKSON T	OTP	

This bill amends the laws governing the Maine Potato Board to reduce the number of the board's districts from five to three and the number of assemblies to match the reduction in districts, to reduce the number of members on assemblies' executive councils so that all executive councils have five members and to reduce the number of officers an executive council must elect to one, a chair. It also removes the requirements that the board carry out duties under the laws governing the so-called Maine Bag Program.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 6 amends the laws governing the Maine Potato Board to reduce the number of the board's districts from five to three and the number of assemblies to match the reduction in districts, to reduce the number of members on assemblies' executive councils so that all executive councils have five members and to reduce the number of officers an executive council must elect to one, a chair. It also removes the requirements that the board carry out duties under the laws governing the so-called Maine Bag Program.

LD 145 An Act Regarding the Membership of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine

PUBLIC 186

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALLEY R MIRAMANT D	OTP-AM	H-227

This bill increases the membership of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine from eight members to 14 members and requires that one member be a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State, one member be an organic grower, one member be a fresh packer, one member be the leader of a cooperative and one member be a representative of a value-added organization or company. The bill also increases the number of members who are grower representatives and decreases the number of members who are processor representatives who process 1,000,000 pounds or more of wild blueberries in a calendar year. The bill specifies that members may not serve consecutive terms.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-227)

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment expands the membership of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine by adding two members who are grower representatives and requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to formally call for nominations for grower representative members. The amendment clarifies the requirements governing grower representative members and processor representative members. The amendment prohibits former employees of the commission from serving as paid lobbyists for wild blueberry businesses for a period of one year following employment by the commission. The amendment also allows members of the University of Maine System Wild Blueberry Advisory Committee to be reappointed for additional terms.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 186 expands the membership of the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine by adding two members who are grower representatives and requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to formally call for nominations for grower representative members. The law clarifies the requirements governing grower representative members and processor representative members. The law prohibits former employees of the commission from serving as paid lobbyists for wild blueberry businesses for a period of one year following employment by the commission. The law also allows members of the University of Maine System Wild Blueberry Advisory Committee to be reappointed for additional terms.

LD 169 An Act To Provide Occupants of Motor Vehicles with Gold Star Family Registration Plates Free Entry to State Parks and Historic Sites CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHEATS B CARSON B	OTP-AM	H-13

This bill provides for free entry to state parks, camping areas and beaches for those persons who have gold star family registration plates on their motor vehicles and for passengers in those vehicles.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-13)

This amendment clarifies that free entry to state parks and historic sites for a person displaying gold star family registration plates is for day use only.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 199 An Act To Create the Water Resources Planning Committee PUBLIC 67

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SYLVESTER M JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-87

This bill establishes the Water Resources Planning Committee within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The bill describes requirements related to committee membership, meetings and reporting. It details three phases on which the committee is required to focus effort. It also requires the committee to conduct an annual review of state policy in regard to water resources, provide guidance to municipalities and develop and disseminate educational materials on water resources and the regulatory regime.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-87)

This amendment adds to committee membership personnel from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Agricultural Water Management Board and a member of the public with expertise in stormwater