

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION,
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT
AND BUSINESS**

August 2019

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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 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 Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

Enacted Law Summary

Public law 2019, chapter 507 directs the Maine Coworking Development Fund, the Department of Economic and Community Development to use a competitive bid process to provide funds from the Maine Coworking Development Fund for the development of collaborative workspaces. It directs the department to, beginning February 1, 2020, annually provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters regarding the program.

LD 183 An Act To Increase the Number of Teachers in Maine ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIERCE T BREEN C	ONTP	

This bill increases the loan amount an undergraduate may receive under the Educators for Maine Program from \$3,000 to \$9,000 per academic year and from \$12,000 to \$36,000 total. It also increases from \$20,000 to \$44,000 the total amount a student may receive in undergraduate and postbaccalaureate loans.

LD 191 An Act To Protect Heating Fuel Customers Who Close Their Accounts ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HYMANSON P LAWRENCE M	ONTP	

This bill requires dealers of heating fuel to reimburse customers within 30 days for any fuel recovered following the closing of their accounts and makes failure to do so a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act.

**LD 277 An Act To Ban Telephone Solicitations Using an Artificial or
Prerecorded Voice and Enhance Caller Identification PUBLIC 185**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE J NADEAU C	OTP-AM	S-88

This bill adds artificial and prerecorded voice calls to the prohibited types of solicitation calls and adds all residential telephone numbers within the State to the list of recipients to whom calls using automated calling devices and artificial and prerecorded voice calls may not be made.

This bill also makes it an unfair trade practice for a seller or telemarketer to fail to transmit or cause to be transmitted the telephone number and, when made available by the telemarketer’s carrier, the name of the telemarketer to any caller identification service in use by a recipient of a telemarketing call. This bill also makes it an unfair trade practice for a seller or telemarketer to cause misleading information to be transmitted to users of caller identification services or to otherwise misrepresent or disguise the origin of a solicitation call.

This bill also provides that the current exceptions to the prohibition against using an automated telephone calling device also apply to the use of an artificial or prerecorded voice and provides additional exceptions for