

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
**131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND**  
**SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS**



Disposition of All Bills and Summaries of All Laws Enacted or  
Finally Passed During the First Regular and First Special Session  
of the 131<sup>st</sup> Maine Legislature

First Regular Session convened Wednesday, December 7, 2022  
First Regular Session adjourned sine die Thursday, March 30, 2023  
First Special Session convened Wednesday April 5, 2023  
First Special Session adjourned sine die Wednesday, July 26, 2023

	First Regular	First Special
Senate Legislative Days	21	36
House Legislative Days	21	36
Number of Bills	2019	

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**THE MAINE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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**HOUSE MEMBERS**

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS, VICE-CHAIR  
REP. MAUREEN TERRY  
REP. KRISTEN CLOUTIER  
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM  
REP. AMY ARATA

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SEN. ELOISE A. VITELLI  
SEN. MATTHEA DAUGHTRY  
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III  
SEN. LISA KEIM

**OCTOBER 2023**

## **ANALYST NOTES**

*This section includes additional information relating to certain LDs as noted in a committee digest. This is information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this Digest; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance.*

### **LD 1309 An Act to Clarify Requirements for Payment of Tuition for Children with Disabilities by the Department of Education's Child Development Services System**

Although this bill was not enacted, a majority of the substance of the bill was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 258, Part YYY.

### **LD 1367 An Act Regarding the Funding Formula for Adult Education**

Although this bill was not enacted, the substance of the bill was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 258, Part RRR.

### **LD 1499 An Act Regarding Penalties for Early Retirement for Certain Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

Although this bill was not enacted, the substance of the bill was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 258, Part DD.

### **LD 1522 An Act to Provide Economic Justice to Historically Disadvantaged Older Citizens by Amending the Laws Governing the Medicare Savings Program and the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program**

Although this bill was not enacted, the asset test for eligibility was removed for the elderly low-cost drug program and the Medicare savings program was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. That law also established income eligibility for qualified Medicare beneficiaries at no more than 185% of the federal poverty level and for qualified individuals at more than 185% and no more than 250% of the federal poverty level. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 258, Part EEEEE.

### **LD 1609 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Develop a Pilot Program to Help Maine Students Avoid Homelessness**

Although LD 1609 was not enacted, the amendment to LD 1609, was incorporated into LD 258, An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2023, June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025, which became Public Law 2023, chapter 412 (see Part KKKK).

The committee amendment to LD 1609 directed the Department of Education to develop a 2-year pilot program to provide McKinney-Vento liaisons with access to emergency

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financial assistance funds for students at risk of homelessness. It provided \$3 million to be used to provide direct assistance, up to \$750, to students at risk of homelessness.

### **LD 1719 An Act to Establish Substance Use Disorder Treatment Centers**

Although this bill was not enacted, funding to support a new substance use disorder treatment center, in either Washington or Kennebec County, was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. \$400,000 for development costs was appropriated for fiscal year 2023-2024 and \$1,600,000 was appropriated for ongoing operations in both fiscal year 2023-2024 and fiscal year 2024-2025.

### **LD 1726 An Act to Build Maine's Economy by Supporting Child Care for Working Families**

Although this bill was not enacted, the Maine Child Care Affordability Program within the Department of Health and Human Services encompassing the former child care subsidy program and establishing new eligibility for child care providers was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. That law also doubled the monthly wage supplement for child care workers and directed the department to amend its procedures regarding eligibility, promote the program, streamline and simplify the online invoicing and billing systems for child care providers and, by 2030, implement a program to achieve affordable child care. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 258, Part VVV.

### **LD 1773 An Act to Increase the State's Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers**

Although this bill was carried over in committee, an almost identical bill, LD 112, was passed by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing. Subsequently, a majority of the substance of the bill was incorporated into Public Law 2023, chapter 412, the budget bill enacted in the First Special Session. See Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Enacted Law Summary, LD 258, Part OOOOO.

### **LD 1898 An Act to Ensure that a Teacher Who Participates in the Prevention of Dangerous Behavior is Protected Under a Collective Bargaining Agreement**

This bill was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, the final disposition of this bill will be determined during the next legislative session.