

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed
during the Second Regular or First Special Sessions of the 123rd Maine
Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

May 2008

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STAFF:

MARION HYLAN BARR, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR & FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the Second Regular or First Special Sessions of the 123rd Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (R2) is June 30, 2008. The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session (S1) is July 18, 2008.¹ The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills. Any bill summarized in this document having an LD number less than 1932 was a bill carried over from the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

¹ The session in which each law was enacted or finally passed (R2 or S1) is included in Appendix C.

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

LD 3 An Act To Strengthen "Permissible Inference" in the Law Concerning Dissemination of Sexually Explicit Material

DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SYKES	OTP-AM	H-646

This bill changes the number of copies of sexually explicit material depicting minors from ten to two copies in order to give rise to a permissible inference under the Maine Rules of Evidence of intent to distribute. Possession of sexually explicit materials is a Class D crime, while dissemination of sexually explicit materials is a Class C crime.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-20)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment removes the emergency clause and preamble and specifies that, for purposes of dissemination of sexually explicit materials, possession of two or more copies of the same book, magazine, newspaper, print, negative, slide, motion picture, videotape, computer data file or other mechanically, electronically or chemically reproduced visual image or material gives rise to a permissible inference under the Maine Rules of Evidence, Rule 303 that the person who possesses those items has the intent to disseminate them.

LD 3 was carried over by joint order, H.P. 1369 after being removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-646)

This amendment replaces the bill and is the same as Committee Amendment "A" (H-20). This amendment was never removed from the Special Appropriations Table and died on adjournment.

LD 68 An Act To Provide a Reward for Information Regarding the Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer

DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARLOW	OTP-AM	H-638

This bill provides that when there is reasonable cause to believe that a law enforcement officer has been murdered, the Governor shall, upon application in writing by the Attorney General or the district attorney in the county where the alleged crime was committed, offer a reward of \$25,000 for evidence that leads directly to a conviction for that murder. Upon proof that the terms of the reward offer have been complied with, the Governor shall direct the Treasurer to make payment of the reward.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-123)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment retains the \$25,000 reward for information that leads directly to a conviction for the murder of a law enforcement officer when there is reasonable cause to believe that the law enforcement officer has been murdered, but in the amendment the officer must have been murdered while in the performance of the officer's official duties. In such a case, the Governor shall, upon application in writing by the Attorney General or the district attorney for the county in which the alleged crime was committed, offer a reward of \$25,000 for evidence that leads directly to the conviction of the murderer under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, sections 201 or 202. Upon satisfactory proof that the terms of the reward offer have been complied with, the Governor shall draw a warrant upon the Treasurer of State for the

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

payment of the reward. The amendment also moves this process from Title 17-A, the Maine Criminal Code, to Title 2, which deals with the powers and duties of the Governor.

LD 68 was carried over by joint order, H.P. 1369 after being removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-638)

This amendment replaces the bill and is the same as Committee Amendment "A" (H-123). Committee Amendment "B" was never removed from the Special Appropriations Table and died on adjournment.

LD 71 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Plea of Not Criminally Responsible by Reason of Insanity in Juvenile Cases

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SYKES	OTP-AM	H-639

This bill creates a new sentencing alternative and process by which a juvenile is ordered committed after being found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity. The Juvenile Court shall immediately order the juvenile immediately committed to the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services to be placed in an appropriate facility for those with mental illness or mental retardation for care and treatment until the juvenile is no longer a threat to the juvenile or to others or until the juvenile's 18th birthday, when the juvenile must be transferred to an adult facility or released. Six months prior to the juvenile's 18th birthday the State Forensic Service shall issue a report reviewing the appropriateness of continued institutionalization or release. A committed juvenile will continue to attend age-appropriate schools and job skills training. The treatment for a committed juvenile includes rehabilitation, mental health counseling and medication management and family counseling. An annual review must be conducted for a committed juvenile, and the court may order the juvenile to remain committed or released upon conditions, if the court finds that the juvenile is no longer a threat to the juvenile or to others.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-248)

This amendment replaces the bill and does the following.

1. It clarifies definitions of the juvenile defense of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity by making language consistent with the defense as it applies to adult criminal matters.
2. It creates procedures similar to those that exist for adults found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity for the review by the juvenile court of a juvenile's placement, transfer, release and discharge from the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services.
3. It specifies that subsequent hearings for juveniles found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity may not be open to the public.
4. It provides a mechanism for notice to the victim when a juvenile is released from secure treatment.
5. It allocates the procedures governing findings and hearings related to juveniles found not criminally responsible by reason of insanity to the sequence of sections in the Maine Juvenile Code governing adjudicatory hearings, findings and adjudication, thereby clarifying that a finding of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity precludes adjudication of a juvenile crime.
6. It provides procedures by which a juvenile may enter an answer of not criminally responsible by reason of insanity alone or coupled with a denial of the charges.