

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

July 2007

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STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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 First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

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:

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

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 305 An Act To Increase the Availability of Cellular Telephone Service for Rural Residents CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JACKSON MARTIN | | |

This bill makes one-time General Fund appropriations of \$125,000 in each year of the 2008-2009 biennium for the Department of Economic and Community Development to enter into partnerships with private businesses to install cellular telephone towers in underserved rural areas where there is currently no signal or to place cellular telephone equipment on state-owned towers in areas that lack cellular telephone service.

This bill was initially reported out of committee on a unanimous "ought to pass" vote, placed on the Senate Special Appropriations Table and carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 314 An Act To Restore Funding for the Reading Recovery Program CARRIED OVER

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MILLS P | | |

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$1,220,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to restore state support for the Reading Recovery program.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 315 An Act Authorizing a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve the Quality and Safety of Science and Teaching Laboratories, General Classrooms and Libraries at Maine's Public ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SCHNEIDER | ONTP MAJ OTP MIN | |

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$62,000,000, will be used to modernize and improve the teaching laboratories, libraries and general classrooms in the University of Maine System.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 318 An Act To Provide Funds for the Coordination and Promotion of the 400th Anniversary of the Popham Colony DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BENOIT | OTP | |

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$50,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to the Maine State Museum for the Friends of Phippsburg to support the coordination of educational programs to commemorate the 400th