

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

This bill makes General Fund appropriations in fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-362)

This amendment makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$20,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 26 makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$20,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 26 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 27, 2007.

LD 611 *An Act To Generate Entrepreneurship, Small Business Development and Employment among Women and Rural Residents through Training and Technical Support* ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERCY EDMONDS	ONTP	

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$375,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to maintain capacity to provide entrepreneurial training, small business development and financial management assistance to help women and rural entrepreneurs create, sustain and expand microenterprises throughout the State.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

LD 612 *An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Improvements for the Maine Community College System* ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FINCH BOWMAN	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$30,000,000, will be used for capital improvements to the Maine Community College System.

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

LD 646 *An Act To Support and Expand Regional Teacher Development Centers and Early College Readiness Programs* CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MILLS J		

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$1,000,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to the University of Maine System to support and expand the University of Maine System Regional Teacher Development

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Centers and early college readiness programs.

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

LD 647 An Act To Encourage Economic Development

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

MILLS J

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$750,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 for local economic development efforts in rural counties to be distributed based on objective criteria.

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

LD 657 An Act To Provide Funding for Transitional Employment Training Opportunities for Persons with Mental Illness

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

Sponsor(s)

CANAVAN

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill makes one-time and ongoing General Fund appropriations for Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center's transitional employment training programs for people with mental illness.

The Department of Health and Human Services indicated that some existing funding would be dedicated to this effort.

LD 670 An Act To Promote Economic Growth through Entrepreneurship, the Creative Economy and Rural Economic Development

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

Sponsor(s)

MARTIN

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$700,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 and \$1,800,000 in fiscal year 2008-09 to the University of Maine System to enhance activities in entrepreneurship education, leadership and community outreach; expand academic programs in multimedia software and technologies necessary to the support, production and management of the creative economy; and create a Center for Rural Sustainable Development to engage in research on issues important to those who live in rural areas.

LD 674 An Act To Restore Funding to the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee

P & S 29

Sponsor(s)

MARTIN

Committee Report

OTP

Amendments Adopted

S-363 ROTUNDO

LD 674 makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$20,500 per year for the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee program.