

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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 CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

July 2007

STAFF:

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. BILL DIAMOND, CHAIR
SEN. EARLE L. MCCORMICK
SEN. ROGER L. SHERMAN

REP. STAN GERZOFSKY, CHAIR
REP. PATRICIA A. BLANCHETTE
REP. ANN E M. HASKELL
REP. STEPHEN P. HANLEY
REP. DAWN HILL
REP. BRYAN T. KAENRATH
REP. RICHARD M. SYKES
REP. CHRISTIAN D. GREELEY
REP. GARY E. PLUMMER
REP. JOSEPH L. TIBBETTS

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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety

recommendations including legislative changes, if necessary.

Public Law 2007, chapter 462 directs the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency, in cooperation with the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council and the Public Utilities Commission to develop and implement a plan, including funding, to provide a statewide disability indicator system to allow individuals with disabilities and special health needs to provide a means for identifying special assistance needed in an emergency. The director shall report regarding the implementation of the plan and shall identify any necessary implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 1, 2008.

Public Law 2007, chapter 462 directs the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency, in cooperation with the Chief Information Officer and the Statewide Radio Network Board, to seek and coordinate information from fire chiefs across the State identifying those facilities in each chief's community that pose radio communications challenges and, after a standardized risk assessment, are identified as having high potential for high vulnerability in an emergency event. The director shall report findings and recommendations, including any necessary legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 1, 2008.

Public Law 2007, chapter 462 directs the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency, in cooperation with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the Department of Environmental Protection, to research the public safety factors involved in determining whether fuel tanks should be attached to buildings in order to withstand high winds and flooding and whether all fuel tanks should have emergency shut-off valves. The director shall report findings and recommendations, including any necessary legislation, to the Homeland Security Advisory Council by January 1, 2008.

Public Law 2007, chapter 462 also amends Public Law 2005, chapter 634, section 21 by specifying that the Department of Education shall ask a school district whether it plans to use its school as a public community shelter after site approval and before concept approval.

Public Law 2007, chapter 462 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 29, 2007.

LD 696 An Act To Require Credentials for Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Volunteers

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY DIAMOND	ONTP	

This bill includes registered emergency communications volunteers among those individuals that the Maine Emergency Management Agency may employ to assist with emergency management activities. This bill creates a definition for emergency communications volunteer that requires volunteers to meet certain requirements before they may receive a valid identification card from the agency. This bill also directs the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency to adopt rules to implement a state radio amateur civil emergency services plan in accordance with Federal Communications Commission and Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines. It also requires the director to adopt rules governing registration requirement levels for emergency communications volunteers.

LD 697 An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to Department of Corrections Facilities

PUBLIC 102

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY DIAMOND	OTP-AM	H-125