

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

The purpose of this legislation is to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program with \$95,000,000 over 4 years to continue Maine's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of \$45,000,000 in required matching funds.

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

LD 874 An Act To Provide Funding for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRYANT M BRYANT B	ONTP	

This bill provides \$5,000,000 to the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program and specifies that the funds may be used only for fuel purchases.

LD 896 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Cleanup of Hazardous Waste Sites ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill, as emergency legislation, proposes to create a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 to fund cleanup of hazardous waste sites such as the Statler Tissue mill site in Augusta.

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

LD 925 An Act To Provide Funds To Support Residential Programs for People with Developmental Disabilities CARRIED OVER

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

The bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$6,000,000 per year for room and board costs for people with developmental disabilities served under the MaineCare home and community-based care waiver for people with developmental disabilities. These room and board costs are no longer Medicaid reimbursable and therefore require a state appropriation for grants to make up for the loss in federal funds.

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

LD 926 An Act To Support the Marine Law Institute ONTP

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

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$200,000 to the University of Maine School of Law to support the Marine Law Institute.