

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 AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

LD 978 **An Act To Amend the Process for Making Certain Changes to State-owned Land**

INDEF PP

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

LD 978 requires legislative approval, including a public hearing, before a building is significantly altered, access to a body of water is altered or closed or a road is closed or altered on designated lands by an agency of State Government.

LD 983 **An Act To More Clearly Define Maple Syrup**

**PUBLIC 24
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PIOTTI	OTP-AM	H-39

LD 983 amends the definition of maple syrup, to match the defined grades of maple syrup more closely. It also provides for a product marketed under the alternative spelling of "sirup" to be regulated.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-39)

This amendment revises the definition of "maple syrup" proposed in the bill. The amendment also makes the bill an emergency, so that the revised definition will be in effect for and apply to maple syrup marketed in 2007.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 24 revises the definition of "maple syrup" to more closely match the defined grades of syrup.

Public Law 2007, chapter 24 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 2, 2007.

LD 1034 **Resolve, To Preserve the Saco River**

RESOLVE 67

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MUSE HASTINGS	OTP-AM	H-357

LD 1034 directs the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to develop a plan for consistent management of recreation on the Saco River from the New Hampshire border to Hiram Dam. The Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands is required to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public lands no later than December 15, 2007. The Commissioner of Conservation is directed to submit any legislation necessary to implement the report's recommendations.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-357)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause. It requires the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to develop options for consistent management of recreation on the Saco River but does not require the director to finalize a plan by December 15, 2007. The amendment adds woodlot owners and farmers to the list of interests represented on the working group convened by the director.

Enacted Law Summary