

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 BUSINESS, RESEARCH
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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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 Business, Research and Economic Development

LD 1038 An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill creates the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Act. The bill contains the following provisions: requirements for licensure of general contractors and persons who perform framing, roofing, siding, insulating, window work or chimney work, if the work concerns residential dwellings; certain specific exemptions from licensure; required qualifications for general and specialty licenses; requirements for criminal and financial disclosures; creation and authority of the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Board; fees for licensing; adoption of a model building code; and a mechanism for phasing in a registration program, followed by a licensing program, upon adoption of the model building code by 56 of a list of 83 specified municipalities.

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

LD 1057 An Act Concerning the Economic and Business Climate

ONTP

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

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

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Environmental and Energy Technology Council of Maine.

LD 1064 An Act To Increase Funding To Support Research and Development in the University of Maine System

DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FAIRCLOTH TURNER	OTP-AM	H-529

This bill requires the Governor or Governor-elect to include in the budget submitted to the Legislature beginning in fiscal year 2008-09 a funding level recommendation for research and development for the University of Maine System through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund that equals at least 1% of the previous year's General Fund revenue and to increase the amount of the previous General Fund revenue each fiscal year by two tenths of 1% so that the funding level recommendation for fiscal year 2018-19 and beyond will equal at least 3% of the General Fund revenues for the previous fiscal year. If the Governor or Governor-elect recommends less than these amounts, then the Governor must submit a report explaining the funding difference to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over research and development matters.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-529)

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.