

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 JUDICIARY

July 2007

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MARGARET J. REINSCH, SENIOR ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

*Representative Bonnie S. Gould replaced former Representative Abigail Holman on the Judiciary Committee.

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 Judiciary

LD 1084 An Act To Provide Adult Adoptees Access to Their Original Birth Certificates

PUBLIC 409

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARRINGTON SHERMAN	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-601

LD 1084 establishes a process by which an adult adopted person may obtain a copy of that person's original, unaltered birth certificate. LD 1084 also allows a birth parent to include with the child's original birth certificate a form that indicates whether the parent wishes to be contacted by the child and a medical history form.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-601)

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

This amendment revises one of the choices that a birth parent can indicate on the contact preference form to "Do not contact me."

Senate Amendment "A" (S-340)

This amendment changes the minimum age at which an adopted person may obtain a copy of that person's birth certificate from 18 to 21. (Not adopted)

Senate Amendment "C" (S-344)

This amendment makes the bill's provision that permits adoptees to have access to their birth certificates apply to original birth certificates of persons whose adoptions are finalized on or after January 1, 2009. (Not adopted)

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 409 establishes a process by which an adult adopted person may obtain a copy of that person's original, unaltered birth certificate. It also allows a birth parent to include with the child's original birth certificate a form that indicates whether the parent wishes to be contacted by the child and a medical history form.

Public Law 2007, chapter 409 takes effect January 1, 2009.

LD 1117 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Somerset Woods Trustees

P & S 14

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

LD 1117 clarifies that the Somerset Woods Trustees corporation has the right to sell, barter and convey any real estate it may hold in the corporation's name. LD 1117 also removes the limitation as to where the corporation may use the proceeds derived from property owned by the corporation.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 14 clarifies that the Somerset Woods Trustees corporation has the right to sell, barter and convey any real estate it may hold in the corporation's name. Chapter 14 also removes the limitation as to where the corporation may use the proceeds derived from property owned by the corporation.