

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
123<sup>RD</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

July 2007

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# STATE OF MAINE

123<sup>RD</sup> 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 123<sup>rd</sup> 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 Transportation*

public way.

**LD 1054      Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Repair  
Underground Pipes on Main Street and Church Street in Stockton  
Springs BY REQUEST** **ONTP**

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

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to repair underground pipes on certain streets in Stockton Springs.

**LD 1092      An Act To Exempt from the Excise Tax Fuel Used in Certain Farm  
Trucks** **ONTP**

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

This bill exempts from the motor fuel tax internal combustion motor fuel purchased and used during the harvest season in farm trucks weighing more than 25,000 pounds.

**LD 1097      An Act Relating to Safe and Effective Use of Casco Bay Bridge** **ONTP**

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

This bill directs the Department of Transportation to adopt rules placing time-of-day restrictions on the raising of the Casco Bay Bridge, a drawbridge that carries Route 77 over the Fore River, connecting the cities of Portland and South Portland.

**LD 1154      Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Expend Funds  
for Fisheries and Waterfront Initiatives** **RESOLVE 56  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARLEY	OTP-AM	H-244

This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to expand funds from the Working Waterfront Loan Fund to include grants to the Portland Fish Pier Authority for the purpose of supporting commercial fishing in Maine.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-244)**

This amendment makes a clarifying change to the resolve and provides that the money previously granted to Coastal Enterprises, Inc. for its working waterfront loan fund is to be reallocated: \$500,000 is to be made available as a grant to the Portland Fish Pier Authority for capital improvements, and the remaining amount in the fund is to be made available to Coastal Enterprises, Inc. for use in fisheries and waterfront initiatives along the State's coast. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

## *Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

Resolve 2007, chapter 56 provides that money previously granted to Coastal Enterprises, Inc. for its working waterfront loan fund is to be reallocated: \$500,000 is to be made available as a grant to the Portland Fish Pier Authority for capital improvements, and the remaining amount in the fund is to be made available to Coastal Enterprises, Inc. for use in fisheries and waterfront initiatives along the State's coast.

Resolve 2007, chapter 56 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 5, 2007.

### **LD 1159      Resolve, To Encourage Increased Use of Biofuel in Maine**

**RESOLVE 79**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FLETCHER HOBBINS	OTP-AM	H-347

This bill directs the Department of Transportation to develop a plan for a pilot program to establish refueling stations for biodiesel fuel that is at least 85% ethanol.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-347)**

This amendment directs the Executive Department, State Planning Office, Office of Energy Independence and Security to develop a plan for a pilot program to establish refueling stations for biofuel that is at least 85% ethanol, rather than requiring the Department of Transportation to develop a program for biodiesel.

#### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2007, chapter 79 directs the Executive Department, State Planning Office, Office of Energy Independence and Security to develop a plan for a pilot program to establish refueling stations for biofuel that is at least 85% ethanol.

### **LD 1164      An Act To Sustain Island Communities**

**ONTP**

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

This bill provides that privately contracted vessels or companies that provide scheduled year-round ferry service to year-round island communities and that have been designated by the communities they serve may be eligible for Department of Transportation financial assistance based on certain conditions and terms.

### **LD 1174      Resolve, To Stabilize the Naples Waterfront**

**ONTP**

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

This resolve directs the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to study the state of disrepair of the Town of Naples waterfront and review the environmental and engineering issues surrounding the disrepair of the waterfront including damaged riprap and asphalt and the feasibility of replacing the retaining wall between Long Lake and Route 302.