

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.

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

- LD 1224 An Act To Prevent Violence against Maine Families and To Provide Adequate Intervention in Cases of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** **ONTP**

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

This bill makes a General Fund appropriation of \$4,600,000 in each of fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 for the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with community-based agencies to provide school-based and community-based sexual assault and domestic violence prevention education and to sustain the efforts already in place to protect Maine citizens from domestic violence and sexual assault and to provide services to victims of those crimes.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

- LD 1237 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create Jobs through Enhancing Maine's Commercial Marine Resources** **ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$55,000,000, will be used for creating jobs through the establishment of an ongoing fund to enhance the State's marine resource economy.

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

- LD 1245 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Research and Development in Renewable Energy** **ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, will be used to encourage research and development in renewable energy.

- LD 1256 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Community Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Collection** **ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$6,000,000, will be used to to continue funding the program for technical and financial assistance for waste reduction and recycling and the household hazardous waste collection and disposal program, with emphasis given to providing planning and coordination assistance to encourage regional recycling efforts by multiple municipalities and giving priority to a municipality that has a goal

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of recycling more than 50% of the waste generated in that municipality.

LD 1268 An Act To Fund the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program and Fund **CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill appropriates \$50,000 from the General Fund each year for the next 2 years to finance the nursing education loan repayment program, which was established in Public Law 2005, chapter 417.

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

LD 1279 An Act To Terminate the Authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority **ONTP**

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

LD 1279 prohibits the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority from undertaking new projects or financing projects other than those approved by the Legislature prior to January 1, 2007. The bill authorizes the authority to carry out its responsibilities for current projects and outstanding debt on those projects.

LD 1312 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Preservation of Forest Lodge in the Town of Upton **ONTP**

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

This bill proposes a General Fund bond issue of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of having the Department of Conservation purchase the historical Forest Lodge property in the Town of Upton. Contingent upon approval of the bond issue by the voters, it appropriates \$500,000 from the General Fund on a one-time basis to the Department of Conservation for the repair and maintenance of the Forest Lodge property.

LD 1344 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine's Economy and Quality of Place through the New Century Community Program **ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be used to fund a grant program under the New Century Community Program to distribute grants on a competitive basis using criteria that include but are not limited to the importance of a project to foster growth of arts and culture within the community, project viability, the likelihood of funding success, geographic diversity and the ability to attract matching funds on a one-to-one ratio or better.

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