

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 TAXATION

July 2007

STAFF:

JULIE S. JONES, SENIOR ANALYST
ALEXANDRA AVORE, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207)287-1635

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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 Taxation

LD 1342 An Act To Enhance Energy Security by Requiring Greater Fuel Efficiency **ONTP**

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

This bill exempts rental cars of which of 50% of their mileage is driven in Maine that have a fuel efficiency of at least 50% higher than the federal average fuel economy standards set by the Federal Government from the registration fee and excise tax for motor vehicles and charges an additional registration fee and excise tax for rental cars that are not exempt in an amount that equals the amount of exemptions given.

LD 1356 An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for Revitalization of Historic Mill Facilities **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MITCHELL | ONTP | |

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

This bill proposes to create a refundable income tax credit to a taxpayer who owns and revitalizes a former mill facility that is a national historic landmark or is determined to be a historic landmark by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

See also LDs 262 and 816.

LD 1357 Resolve, Directing the Treasurer of State To Convene a Study Commission To Develop Recommendations To Improve the Administration of the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOBBS | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the Treasurer of State to convene a study group that is charged with reviewing the distribution of state-municipal revenue sharing, and directs the Treasurer of State to submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

See also LDs 355 and 1358.

LD 1358 Resolve, To Study the Distribution of Revenue Sharing **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOBBS | ONTP | |

This resolve requires the Treasurer of State to convene a commission to study the current system of state-municipal revenue sharing and develop recommendations to improve the administration and distribution