

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed
during the Second Regular or First Special Sessions of the 123rd Maine
Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

May 2008

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STATE OF MAINE
123RD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR & FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



**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 Second Regular or First Special Sessions of the 123rd Maine Legislature.

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:

<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (R2) is June 30, 2008. The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session (S1) is July 18, 2008.¹ The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills. Any bill summarized in this document having an LD number less than 1932 was a bill carried over from the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

¹ The session in which each law was enacted or finally passed (R2 or S1) is included in Appendix C.

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Class C crimes. Public Law 2007, chapter 476 also replaces in numerous chapter 45 provisions "convicted of an offense under any law of the United States, of another state or of a foreign country relating to scheduled drugs, as defined by this chapter, and punishable by a term of imprisonment of more than one year" with "convicted of engaging in substantially similar conduct to that of the Class A, B or C offenses under this chapter or another jurisdiction."

LD 1512 An Act To Change the Statute of Limitations for Gross Sexual Assault by a Juvenile

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BARTLETT	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-433

Current law provides no statute of limitations for the prosecution of the juvenile crimes of gross sexual assault and unlawful sexual contact if the victim was under 16 years of age and the juvenile accused of the crime was at least 16 years of age, if the State can present DNA evidence regarding the offense. If the accused juvenile is under 16 years of age, the prosecution must be brought within 6 years after it is committed. This bill extends the statute of limitations to 12 years when the victim was under 16, the juvenile crime was unlawful sexual contact or gross sexual assault and the accused juvenile was under 16 years of age at the time of the crime, even if the State cannot present DNA evidence.

LD 1512 was carried over by joint order, H.P. 1369 after being removed from the Special Appropriations Table and recommitted to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-203)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment extends the statute of limitations to 10 instead of 12 years as proposed in the bill when the victim was under 16 years of age, the juvenile crime was unlawful sexual contact or gross sexual assault and the accused juvenile was under 16 years of age at the time of the crime, regardless if DNA evidence is available.

The amendment also adds an application section to specify that this change in the statute of limitations applies only to juvenile crimes committed on or after the effective date of the bill and to juvenile crimes for which the prosecution has not yet been barred by the previous statute of limitations in force on the effective date of the bill.

House Amendment "A" (H-590)

This amendment changes the statute of limitations to 10 years, as done in Committee Amendment "A," but restricts the application to juvenile crimes of gross sexual assault and unlawful sexual contact, except for Title 17-A, section 255-A, paragraph A.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-433)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment extends the statute of limitations to 10 years instead of 12 years as proposed in the bill for crimes in which the victim was under 16 years of age, the juvenile crime was unlawful sexual contact that involved penetration or gross sexual assault and the accused juvenile was under 16 years of age at the time of the crime, regardless of whether DNA evidence is available.

The amendment also adds an application section to specify that this change in the statute of limitations applies only to juvenile crimes committed on or after the effective date of the Act and to juvenile crimes the prosecution of which has not yet been barred by the previous statute of limitations in force on the effective date of the Act.

Committee Amendment "B" was never removed from the Special Appropriations Table and died on adjournment.