

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 LABOR

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

LD 1832 An Act To Amend the Unemployment Compensation Laws

ONTP

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

This bill provides that an individual who is receiving unemployment benefits and who finds work no later than 3 weeks after making an initial claim for benefits must receive a bonus equal to 2 weeks of benefits, payable as a lump sum. An individual who is receiving benefits and who finds work no later than 6 weeks after making an initial claim for benefits must receive a bonus equal to one week of benefits. The bill also requires that an individual provide proof of having contacted a minimum of 5 employers in a week in order to be eligible to receive unemployment compensation for that week.

LD 1861 An Act Regarding Payment of Penalties for Nonpayment of Bills for Medical or Health Care Services under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992

PUBLIC 218

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

This bill provides that penalties for nonpayment of bills for medical or health care services provided in a workers' compensation case are payable to the provider of the medical or health care services or the employee who paid for the medical or health care services instead of the Workers' Compensation Board Administrative Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, Chapter 218 provides that penalties for nonpayment of bills for medical or health care services provided in a workers' compensation case are payable to the provider of the medical or health care services or the employee who paid for the medical or health care services instead of the Workers' Compensation Board Administrative Fund.

LD 1862 An Act Regarding Fairness for Families Regarding Workers' Compensation Coverage

PUBLIC 350

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-475

This bill adds registered domestic partners to the list of individuals who may waive workers' compensation coverage in certain circumstances.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-475)

This amendment changes a definitional reference throughout the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, Chapter 350 adds registered domestic partners to the list of individuals who may waive workers' compensation coverage in certain circumstances.