

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 BUSINESS, RESEARCH
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

May 2008

STAFF:

NATALIE L. HAYNES, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

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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 Business, Research and Economic Development

LD 2185 An Act To Provide for the 2008 and 2009 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds

**P & S 41
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROMLEY	OTP-AM	S-473

This bill establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on the issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2008 and 2009. Under federal law, a maximum of \$262,095,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2008 and at least \$262,095,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2009. This bill allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-473)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 41 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on the issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2008 and 2009. Under federal law, a maximum of \$262,095,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2008 and at least \$262,095,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in Maine in 2009. This law allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds.

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 41 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 1, 2008.

LD 2186 Resolve, Regarding the Operations of the Greater Portland Public Development Commission

RESOLVE 224

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUMMINGS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-809 H-969 CLEARY

This bill directs the disposition of funds and other assets of the Greater Portland Public Development Commission, which was created by the Legislature in 1945 to dispose of World War II South Portland shipyard assets and to promote economic development in the City of Portland and the City of South Portland.

This bill authorizes the permanent transfer or assignment of the commission's remaining funds and other assets to a nonprofit organization with a mission consistent with the commission's mission to continue the commission's economic development efforts in the City of Portland and the City of South Portland and provides for the subsequent termination of the commission's legal existence.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-809)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

House Amendment "A" (H-969)

This amendment replaces the bill. Unlike the bill, which directed the disposition of funds and other assets of the Greater Portland Public Development Commission, this amendment instead directs the Greater Portland Public Development Commission to submit an audited financial statement to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and economic development matters by January 15, 2009, and authorizes