

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during  
the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## 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 124<sup>th</sup> 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:

CARRIED OVER.....	Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
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; bill died
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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*

biennially in the "Maine Child Care Workforce Climate Report & Market Analysis." The law also changes the yearly schedule so that the Department of Labor has 5 months to report the information instead of only one month.

**LD 65      An Act To Increase the Ability of the Maine Wage Assurance Fund To  
Pay Unpaid Workers**

**PUBLIC 25**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON	OTP-AM	S-16

This bill increases the amount that may be held in the Maine Wage Assurance Fund from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-16)**

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 25 increases the amount that may be held in the Maine Wage Assurance Fund from \$100,000 to \$200,000. The increase will not raise the employment tax, but will ensure that workers get paid up to two weeks of unpaid wages when a business closes with no assets.

**LD 83      An Act To Increase the Percentage of Retired Teachers' Health  
Insurance Paid by the State**

**DIED ON  
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON	OTP-AM	S-17

This bill increases the State's contribution for health insurance for retired teachers from 45% to 50% beginning January 1, 2010.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-17)**

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**LD 84      An Act To Ensure Fair Pay**

**PUBLIC 29**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIMPSON	OTP-AM	S-18

This bill protects employees from employer discrimination when employees inquire about, disclose, compare or otherwise discuss employee wages.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-18)**

## *Joint Standing Committee on Labor*

This amendment clarifies that an employer may neither prohibit the inquiry nor the disclosure of an employee's wages for the purpose of enforcing the equal pay statute. It also states that there is no obligation to disclose wages.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 29 specifies that an employer may not prohibit an employee from disclosing the employee's own wages or from inquiring about another employee's wages if the purpose of the disclosure or inquiry is to enforce the equal pay statute. The law also states that there is no obligation to disclose wages.

### **LD 104      An Act To Fund Fully the Purchase of Military Time**

**DIED ON  
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P	OTP-AM	H-111

This bill provides one-time funds to subsidize the purchase of military service credit for the members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System who applied and were determined eligible to purchase the service credit for calendar year 2004 per Public Law 2003, chapter 693.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-111)**

This amendment corrects the amount necessary to provide one-time funds to subsidize the purchase of military service credit for the members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System who applied and were determined eligible to purchase the service credit for calendar year 2004 per Public Law 2003, chapter 693. The amendment is necessary because the original calculation was based on 6 individuals who are eligible. Since 2 of those individuals have already retired, the new calculation is based on the 4 remaining individuals who were determined eligible to purchase service credit for calendar year 2004.

### **LD 125      Resolve, To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Study the Functions and Operations of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

**Carried Over**

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

This resolve establishes a blue ribbon commission to study the functions and operations of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

This resolve is carried over to any special or regular session of the 124th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1053.