

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

July 2009

MEMBERS:

SEN. JOSEPH C. PERRY, CHAIR
SEN. LAWRENCE BLISS
SEN. RICHARD A. NASS

REP. THOMAS R. WATSON, CHAIR
REP. DONALD E. PILON
REP. MARK E. BRYANT
REP. LINDA M. VALENTINO
REP. PATSY CROCKETT
REP. LAWRENCE SIROIS
REP. ELSPETH FLEMINGS
REP. KATHLEEN D. CHASE
REP. L. GARY KNIGHT
REP. BRIAN D. LANGLEY

STAFF:

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

STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 124th 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 124th 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 Taxation

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 7 authorizes the State Tax Assessor to convey the interest of the State in several parcels of real estate in the Unorganized Territory acquired for nonpayment of property taxes.

LD 109 **An Act To Exempt Residential Electricity from Sales Tax** ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DAVIS P TRAHAN | ONTP | |

This bill exempts from sales tax the sale and delivery of all residential electricity exceeding the current exemption of 750 kilowatt-hours per month.

LD 166 **An Act To Exempt Persons 65 Years of Age or Older with Income below the Poverty Line from Property Taxes on Their Homes** ONTP

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

This bill provides a property tax exemption for the homestead of a person who is 65 years of age or older and whose annual income is below poverty thresholds as long as the person occupies that home at least 8 months each year. This bill requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services to adopt major substantive rules to administer the program.

LD 167 **An Act To Provide a Sales Tax Exemption for Used Goods Sold To Benefit Food Pantries** ONTP

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

This bill provides a sales tax exemption for sales of used goods by a nonprofit organization when the profits from those sales benefit a food pantry.

LD 195 **An Act To Base the Excise Tax on Vehicles on a Percentage of the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price** Carried Over

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KNIGHT SMITH D | | |