

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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 CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

July 2009

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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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety

LD 69 An Act To Provide a Reward for Information Regarding the Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer

ONTP

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

This bill provides that when there is reasonable cause to believe that a law enforcement officer has been murdered, the Governor shall, upon application in writing by the Attorney General or the district attorney in the county where the alleged crime was committed, offer a reward of \$25,000 for evidence that leads directly to a conviction for that murder. Upon proof that the terms of the reward offer have been complied with, the Governor shall direct the Treasurer to make payment of the reward.

LD 122 An Act To Correct the Law Concerning Private Investigators' License Qualifications

PUBLIC 20

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

This bill corrects a provision of law concerning private investigators' license qualifications by clarifying that an affirmative answer to any one of six background questions on the application is cause for refusal to grant a license.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 20 corrects a provision of law concerning private investigators' license qualifications by clarifying that an affirmative answer to any one of six background questions on the application is cause for refusal to grant a license.

LD 180 An Act To Make Technical Corrections to the Operating Under the Influence Laws

**PUBLIC 54
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY	OTP-AM	S-24

This bill corrects the inconsistency in the minimum periods of license suspension for repeat OUI offenders resulting from Public Law 2007, chapter 531. The bill amends the OUI laws to treat OUI convictions rendered by jurisdictions other than the State the same as Maine OUI convictions for the purpose of increasing the class of crime for operating after habitual offender revocation. This bill also amends the OUI laws to treat OUI convictions rendered by jurisdictions other than the State the same as Maine OUI convictions for purposes of the imposition of penalties for aggravated operating after habitual offender revocation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-24)

This amendment specifies that ignition interlock provisions apply to administrative motor vehicle license

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suspensions by the Secretary of State, as well as to court-ordered suspensions. The amendment also adds an emergency preamble and clause and makes the changes retroactive to September 1, 2008 when the ignition interlock law, Public Law 2007, chapter 531, took effect.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 54 corrects the inconsistency in the minimum periods of license suspension for repeat OUI offenders resulting from Public Law 2007, chapter 531. Public Law 2009, chapter 54 amends the OUI laws to treat OUI convictions rendered by jurisdictions other than the State the same as Maine OUI convictions for the purpose of increasing the class of crime for operating after habitual offender revocation and also amends the OUI laws to treat OUI convictions rendered by jurisdictions other than the State the same as Maine OUI convictions for purposes of the imposition of penalties for aggravated operating after habitual offender revocation. Public Law 2009, chapter 54 specifies that ignition interlock provisions apply to administrative motor vehicle license suspensions by the Secretary of State, as well as to court-ordered suspensions. Public Law 2009, chapter 54 was an emergency measure effective April 22, 2009.

After enactment, it was discovered that a substantive error existed. LD 180 unintentionally repealed the enhancement of the Class for operating after habitual offender revocation by deleting the language based on Public Law 2007, chapter 531. Public Law 2009, chapter 415, the enacted version of LD 1475, An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine, corrects drafting errors in LD 180, including reenacting the inadvertent repeal of that portion of Title 29-A, section 2558, subsection 2, paragraph B, which enhances the penalty for aggravated operating after habitual offender revocation if the driver had been once previously convicted of the same offense. Without this change, a second or subsequent offender could be prosecuted only for a Class D crime. Public Law 2009, Chapter 415 also limits the retroactivity provision of Public Law 2009, chapter 54 to the sections of Title 29-A that affect suspension of a motor vehicle license. Portions of the law that affect sentencing are not applied retroactively. Public Law 2009, chapter 415 was an emergency measure effective June 17, 2009.

LD 185 An Act To Ensure Public Safety during High-speed Chases by Law Enforcement Officers

ONTP

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposes to prohibit law enforcement officers from engaging in high-speed chases.

LD 186 An Act Pertaining to the Possession of Animal Fighting Paraphernalia

DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WAGNER R BLISS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill amends the existing crime of viewing animal fighting by increasing it from a Class D to a Class C crime. The bill also creates the new Class C crime of possession of animal fighting paraphernalia. A person is guilty of this new crime if the person possesses, manufactures for sale, ships, transports or delivers a device or equipment used to train or condition an animal for participation in an animal fighting contest that the person knows or should have