

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 LEGAL AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

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 Legal and Veterans Affairs

LD 219

An Act To Require Maine Clean Election Act Candidates To Use Maine Vendors

ONTP

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

This bill requires a Maine Clean Election Act candidate to use in-state vendors when purchasing campaign-related goods and services whenever feasible.

LD 235

An Act To Provide Fiscal Information for Citizen Initiatives

PUBLIC 341

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN MILLS P	OTP-AM	H-435

This bill requires the Secretary of State to request assistance from the Office of Fiscal and Program Review to determine whether a direct initiative will have a fiscal impact. If the Office of Fiscal and Program Review determines that the direct initiative has a cost other than the cost associated with conducting a referendum on the direct initiative, the person who submitted the direct initiative must indicate in a subsequent draft of the direct initiative submitted to the Secretary of State how the cost of the direct initiative will be paid. The bill also requires the Secretary of State to include in the ballot question information on the cost of the direct initiative and how that cost will be paid. The bill also indicates that if a means of paying for or accounting for the cost is not included in the legislation, then the direct initiative may not be enacted into law until it is funded through the normal legislative process.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-435)

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment changes the date by which fiscal impact statements must be completed for direct initiatives of legislation so that the statements may be included on the petition to be circulated for that direct initiative. It requires initiative petitions to include a space at the top of each page for the name of the circulator and requires the fiscal impact statement to be printed on initiative petitions and election ballots and to be posted conspicuously in voting places and in voting booths.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 341 changes the date by which fiscal impact statements must be completed for direct initiatives of legislation so that the statements may be included on the petition to be circulated for that direct initiative. It requires initiative petitions to include a space at the top of each page for the name of the circulator and requires the fiscal impact statement to be printed on initiative petitions and election ballots and to be posted conspicuously in voting places and in voting booths.