

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 BUSINESS, RESEARCH
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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 Business, Research and Economic Development

LD 267 **An Act To Allow the Town of Baldwin Eligibility for Full Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits**

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DIAMOND	OTP-AM	S-156

This bill waives the Pine Tree Development Zone unemployment and wage requirements for the Town of Baldwin in Cumberland County in order to allow the town to be eligible for Pine Tree Development Zone benefits.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-156)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 270 **An Act To Allow a Gasoline Retailer To Offer Discounts to Customers Who Pay by Cash or Similar Means**

ONTP

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

This bill establishes that motor fuel franchise agreements in Maine may not prohibit a retail dealer or distributor from offering a discount to a buyer to induce the buyer to pay by cash, debit card, check or similar means rather than by credit card. The bill also provides that any provision in such a franchise agreement prohibiting a retail dealer or distributor of motor fuels from offering such a discount is void and without effect as contrary to public policy.

LD 271 **An Act To Encourage Economic Recovery and Employment Growth To Support Maine's Working Waterfronts**

**PUBLIC 21
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD GOODALL	OTP-AM	H-36

This bill establishes a waiver of certain Pine Tree Development Zone qualification requirements for property that is within a working waterfront that has sustained a 5% loss of employed workers during the 16-month period immediately preceding the time of application, as long as the loss was caused by a catastrophic occurrence. The bill requires that an application for a waiver must be received by August 1, 2011. The bill also states that only a qualified business whose primary purpose is to support the State's working waterfront industry is eligible to receive Pine Tree Development Zone benefits.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-36)

This amendment removes that section of the bill that established a waiver of certain requirements and instead adds a provision to allow a qualified Pine Tree Development Zone business whose primary purpose is to support the State's working waterfront industry that has suffered from a catastrophic occurrence to apply for an adjustment of the base