

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 NATURAL RESOURCES

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 Natural Resources

**LD 260 An Act To Provide Access to Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
Auction Funds to Maine Indian Tribes**

ONTP

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

This bill requires 5 percent of the annual receipts of the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund to be allocated to the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township, Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point, Penobscot Nation, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and Aroostook Band of Micmacs.

**LD 298 An Act Regarding the Labeling of Wood Pellet and Biomass Heating
Fuel Sold in the State**

**ACCEPTED
REPORT A
(ONTP)**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINKHAM	ONTP A OTP-AM B REF TO ACF C	

This bill defines "biomass heating fuel" as wood pellets or corn or grain that is in a form designed to be used as heating fuel for residential purposes. It requires packages containing biomass heating fuel that are sold in this State to be labeled in a manner that clearly indicates whether the biomass heating fuel meets quality assurance standards established by the Department of Environmental Protection. It requires the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt major substantive rules to establish labeling standards for packages of biomass heating fuel weighing 60 pounds or less intended to be sold in stores to the general public that incorporate standards established by a national pellet fuels trade association and permit the use of the logo, terms and grades established by the national pellet fuels trade association only if the biomass heating fuel meets that association's relevant quality assurance standards. It makes a violation an unfair trade practice as prohibited by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 207.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-54)

This amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill. This amendment was not adopted.

LD 330 An Act To Change the Classification of Certain Waters of the State

PUBLIC 163

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EBERLE SIMPSON	OTP-AM A OTP-AM B OTP-AM C	H-70

This bill does the following.

1. It adds a condition in the water classification law that allows the Legislature to make classification changes and set effective dates for those changes. It allows the commissioner to make changes in management to allow water quality to attain the new classification by an effective date determined by the Legislature.