

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 STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

July 2009

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* Rep. William P. Browne replaced Rep. Michael Celli for part of the First Regular Session. Rep. Celli will return for the Second Regular Session.

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 State and Local Government

LD 379

An Act To Amend the Notary Public Laws

PUBLIC 74

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PRIEST BLISS	OTP-AM	H-50

This bill clarifies that the purpose and function of the Notary Public Review Board is to screen complaints against notaries and recommend appropriate disposition to the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-50)

This amendment adds a requirement for a notary public to keep an official handwritten signature on file with the Secretary of State and, when performing a notarization, sign by producing that official signature by hand. It also clarifies that a newly appointed notary public must take an oath that mirrors the oath in the Constitution of Maine but without the requirement to be a citizen.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 74 clarifies that the purpose and function of the Notary Public Review Board is to screen complaints against notaries and recommend appropriate disposition to the Secretary of State. It also adds a requirement for a notary public to keep an official handwritten signature on file with the Secretary of State and, when performing a notarization, sign by producing that official signature by hand. It clarifies that a newly appointed notary public must take an oath that mirrors the oath in the Constitution of Maine but without the requirement to be a citizen.

LD 417

An Act To Require State Employees To Pay 15% of Their Health Insurance Costs

DIED IN CONCURRENCE

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

This bill reduces the state share of the individual premium for health insurance costs for state employees from 100% to 95% effective October 1, 2009, 90% effective July 1, 2010 and 85% effective July 1, 2011.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-273)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It changes the effective date of the state share of the individual premium for health insurance costs for state employees from July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011 and eliminates the provision that reduced the state share to 85% effective July 1, 2011.

The state share of the individual premium for health insurance costs for state employees was changed in Public Law 2009, chapter 213, Part GG, the biennial budget.