

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, RESEARCH  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

July 2009

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## 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 124<sup>th</sup> 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 124<sup>th</sup> 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.

**LD 421**

**An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning Licensure Qualifications of Independent Practice Dental Hygienists**

**PUBLIC 318**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMITH N MILLS P	OTP-AM A ONTP B OTP-AM C	H-326

This bill amends the experience requirements for licensure of independent practice dental hygienists. It makes the initial licensure requirements less stringent, which will broaden the pool of potential qualified applicants and potentially increase access to care for Maine citizens.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-326)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It removes the changes to the experience requirements for licensure as an independent practice dental hygienist proposed in the bill, which allowed an applicant to fulfill the experience requirements through work hours in any dental practice setting approved by the Board of Dental Examiners, and instead amends the experience requirements to:

1. Specify that an applicant's degree from a dental hygiene program must be a degree in dental hygiene;
2. With respect to applicants with a bachelor's degree, require that an applicant have 2,000 work hours of clinical practice, either in a private dental practice or a nonprofit dental clinic under direct or general supervision of a dentist, during the 4 years preceding application. Current law requires one year or 2,000 hours of clinical practice in a private dental practice during the 2 years preceding application; and
3. With respect to applicants with an associate degree, require that an applicant have 5,000 work hours of clinical practice, either in a private dental practice or a nonprofit dental clinic under direct or general supervision of a dentist, during the 6 years preceding application. Current law requires 3 years or 6,000 hours of clinical practice in a private dental practice during the 6 years preceding application.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2009, chapter 318 amends the experience requirements for licensure as an independent practice dental hygienist to:

1. Specify that an applicant's degree from a dental hygiene program must be a degree in dental hygiene;
2. With respect to applicants with a bachelor's degree, require that an applicant have 2,000 work hours of clinical practice, either in a private dental practice or a nonprofit dental clinic under direct or general supervision of a dentist, during the 4 years preceding application. Current law requires one year or 2,000 hours of clinical practice in a private dental practice during the 2 years preceding application; and
3. With respect to applicants with an associate degree, require that an applicant have 5,000 work hours of clinical practice, either in a private dental practice or a nonprofit dental clinic under direct or general supervision of a dentist, during the 6 years preceding application. Current law requires 3 years or 6,000 hours of clinical practice in a private dental practice during the 6 years preceding application.