

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 TAXATION

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 Taxation

LD 743 An Act To Exempt Fuel Used by Commercial Fishing Vessels from the Sales Tax

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RECTOR	OTP-AM	S-102

This bill restores a sales tax exemption for diesel engine fuel used by commercial groundfishing boats that expired in 2008 and also exempts diesel engine fuel used for the purpose of operating or propelling a commercial lobstering boat.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-102)

This amendment expands the application of the sales tax refund for depreciable machinery and equipment purchases to include fuel used in all commercial fishing vessels and provides that the refund applies only to the sales tax on the portion of the sales price that exceeds \$3 from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 and \$3.50 thereafter. The amendment also requires the State Tax Assessor to report on the number of persons granted refunds and the amount paid and changes the effective date of the legislation to July 1, 2009.

LD 743 was placed on the Special Appropriations Table and died on adjournment.

LD 744 An Act To Allow a Tax Credit for Tuition Paid to Private Schools

ONTP

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

This bill provides an income tax credit of up to \$2,500 for tuition paid to a private school for a taxpayer or a dependent of the taxpayer.

LD 765 An Act To Allow Towns To Establish Their Own Homestead Exemption Programs

ONTP

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

This bill allows a municipality to adopt a local option homestead property tax exemption program that provides an exemption of up to 20% of the just value of the homestead. Eligibility criteria for the local option homestead property tax exemption must be the same as for the state homestead property tax exemption program. The benefit available under the local homestead exemption is in addition to the benefit available under the state homestead exemption.