

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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NATALIE L. HAYNES, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

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 938 An Act To Allocate Redemption Centers Based on Population

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

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

This bill amends the licensing of local redemption centers by requiring the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to consider the proximity of a proposed redemption center to existing redemption centers. The bill also limits the number of redemption centers that may be licensed in a municipality based on the population of the municipality. The population limits do not apply to existing redemption centers, certain licensed food establishments and reverse vending machines located in a redemption center and may be waived if the applicant shows a compelling public need for another redemption center.

The bill also provides a procedure for an applicant denied a redemption center license to appeal that denial.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-128)

This is the minority report of the committee. It adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

LD 958 An Act To Encourage Renewable Energy Investment

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CORNELL DU HOUX PERRY J	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill authorizes the State to provide the benefits of Pine Tree Development Zones to businesses producing renewable energy onshore or offshore or manufacturing component parts necessary for the production of renewable energy onshore or offshore.

LD 959 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Maine Economic Improvement Fund

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TILTON RAYE	ONTP MAJ OTP MIN	

This bill requires the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System to set aside annually 3% of the total amount to be expended from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund for research and development and product innovation in target areas and to distribute that amount equally among those rural campuses of the University of Maine System that are able to demonstrate efforts in research and development in target areas in the previous year.