

# 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 SELECT COMMITTEE ON MAINE'S ENERGY  
FUTURE**

July 2009

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**STAFF:**

JON CLARK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

# 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.

## *Joint Select Committee on Maine's Energy Future*

appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Legislature; and four Legislators, two Senators appointed by the President of the Senate and two House members appointed by the Speaker of the House. The Energy Trust Authority will be a quasi-state entity, with the broad powers to accomplish its purpose, including the power to develop and implement programs, enter into contracts with public and private entities to accomplish the purpose of the authority, issue revenue bonds through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, contract with the Finance Authority of Maine or other entities to provide loans or grant funds, develop and adopt rules, set standards for energy efficiency and weatherization funded by the authority, retain certain confidential information under provisions similar to the Finance Authority of Maine's confidentiality exemptions and exercise other responsibilities possessed by and enjoy protections provided to other authorities under state law.

See also LD 1485.

**LD 980**

**An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for Heating and Cooling System Alternatives and Improvements That Benefit the Environment and Address Climate Change**

**ONTP**

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

This bill provides an income tax credit of up to \$5,000 for the costs of an alternative fuel heating or cooling system, energy efficiency equipment components and voltage regulation technology. The credit may be claimed for installations in tax years beginning in 2009 or 2010 and may be carried over up to five years. The General Fund costs of the credit are reimbursed from the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund.

**LD 1181**

**An Act To Create Jobs through Investment in Green Energy**

**ONTP**

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

This bill provides funding for cost-effective efficiency and renewable energy technology. It creates an energy efficiency entity called Efficiency Maine to administer a wide range of efficiency and related programs and to leverage private and federal funds. It ensures the provision of training for the jobs that these measures will create. Specifically, the bill accomplishes the following.

Part A requires all agencies of State Government that administer a program related to energy efficiency, load management and distributed renewable energy to contract with Efficiency Maine to administer the program, unless a different cooperative arrangement is more cost-effective. Part A also raises efficiency standards for state-funded construction and state-purchased vehicles.

Part B adds Efficiency Maine project bonds issued by the Finance Authority of Maine to the portion of the State ceiling for private activity bonds allocated to the Finance Authority of Maine. Part B also requires every building and industrial facility in the State, with certain limited exceptions, to get a thorough energy audit within the next 10 years. If the evaluation is done in coordination with Efficiency Maine, the audit must be paid for by Efficiency Maine.