

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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 LEGAL AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

July 2009

MEMBERS:

SEN. NANCY B. SULLIVAN, CHAIR
SEN. SETH A. GOODALL
SEN. DEBRA D. PLOWMAN

REP. PAMELA JABAR TRINWARD, CHAIR
REP. JOHN L. TUTTLE, JR.
REP. LINDA M. VALENTINO
REP. MICHAEL E. CAREY
REP. ALEXANDER CORNELL DU HOUX
REP. DIANE RUSSELL
REP. STACEY ALLEN FITTS
REP. WRIGHT H. PINKHAM, SR.
REP. JOAN M. NASS
REP. MICHAEL G. BEAULIEU

STAFF:

DANIELLE D. FOX, 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:

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 Legal and Veterans Affairs

This amendment removes the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee from the working group to study issues related to landlords and tenants.

House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in the House, but indefinitely postponed in the Senate. The substantive provisions in House Amendment "B" were incorporated into Senate Amendment "A".

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-544)

This amendment removes the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee from the working group to study issues related to landlords and tenants.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-319)

Like House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-546), this amendment removes the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee from the working group to study issues related to landlords and tenants. This amendment also strikes the provision of staffing assistance being provided by the Legislative Council.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 137 directs the Executive Director of the Maine State Housing Authority to convene a working group to study certain issues related to the laws governing landlords and tenants. The resolve requires the working group to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs by January 15, 2010.

LD 1081

An Act To Clarify the Laws on Licensing for Charitable and Fraternal Organizations and Games of Chance

ONTP

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

This bill allows nonprofit organizations to conduct games of chance without a license.

LD 1110

Resolve, Directing the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services To Report on Homeless Veterans

RESOLVE 72

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CORNELL DU HOUX SULLIVAN	OTP-AM	H-265

This resolve establishes a study commission to review and examine, in consultation with a representative of the Veterans Administration, the issue of homeless veterans, who are reported to constitute at least 1/3 of the nation's homeless population, and to examine causes, possible solutions and what further assistance can be given to homeless veterans in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-265)

This amendment replaces the resolve and directs the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services to work with existing groups to examine the issue of homeless veterans and