

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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STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 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 Business, Research and Economic Development

LD 1389

An Act To Create State and Regional Quality of Place Investment Strategies for High-value Jobs, Products and Services in Maine

Carried Over

Sponsor(s)

DAMON

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

Part A establishes the Maine Quality of Place Council to act as a coordinating body for state and regional quality of place investment strategies. The council consists of state and regional public agency representatives and private citizens. Its responsibilities include working with other state agencies to recommend how state agencies may align their laws, programs and funding with a state quality of place investment strategy to support regional efforts and assessing how regional quality of place investment strategies align with state efforts. The council will also create performance measures to assess state and regional quality of place investment strategies. It will also award annually Maine Quality of Place Prosperity Awards recognizing the preservation, enhancing and marketing of Maine's quality of place assets to stimulate job creation and economic prosperity.

Part A also provides definitions for both state and regional quality of place investment strategies. It establishes a fund for implementing regional quality of place investment strategies. The fund will consist of any bond proceeds and any public and private contributions received for its purpose. This Part also requires applications for other state program funds to receive preference points if they are submitted as part of a regional quality of place investment strategy.

Part B requires regional planning and development districts that have in place a United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration comprehensive economic development strategy to develop a regional quality of place investment strategy by engaging regional sector leaders, setting priorities and leveraging public and private development activities and funds.

Part C requires the Executive Department, State Planning Office to provide assistance to the Maine Quality of Place Council, engage in public education regarding asset-based investment strategies and a state quality of place investment strategy and work with regional planning and development districts to aid them in development of regional quality of place investment strategies.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 124th Legislature by Joint Order, H.P. 1053.

LD 1393

An Act To Provide an Exception to the Pine Tree Development Zone Requirements for Seafood Processing Businesses

Carried Over

Sponsor(s)

PINGREE
DAMON

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill provides a new exception category for qualification for Pine Tree Development Zone benefits for a seafood processing business that makes certain written commitments. The process for qualifying for this exception and the conditions for meeting those qualifications are similar to those that presently exist for manufacturing businesses in order for them to qualify for Pine Tree Development Zone benefits under circumstances in which they would not otherwise be qualified.