

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:

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

licensure and regulation of oil and solid fuel burning technicians and propane and natural gas technicians, and combines the 2 licensing programs into one licensing program under a merged licensing board, the Maine Fuel Board, established by one authorizing statute. The law provides for a limited license for wood pellet technicians and for board authority to consider the impact of new heating technology that may be available in the future. The law requires an applicant for a propane and natural gas technician license to either successfully complete the national propane gas association's certified employee training program or a board-approved propane or natural gas course at a Maine community college, career and technical education center or career and technical education region or a comparable institute of this State or another state and pass an examination approved by the board. This law also reduces the license term for applicants for a temporary plant operator or delivery technician license.

LD 1468 An Act Regarding the Evaluation of Economic Development Programs

**PUBLIC 337
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMITH N SCHNEIDER	OTP-AM	H-502

This bill implements the recommendations of the Department of Economic and Community Development relating to streamlining and improving the comprehensive economic development evaluation for the State's economic development programs and incentives. It also reduces duplicative statutory reporting requirements that will be included in the department's comprehensive evaluation process. The bill also amends the definition of "economic development incentive." It also increases the maximum budget amounts of contributing programs and organizations that can be assessed for economic development evaluation and research and development evaluation. It repeals the provision of law that allows the State Tax Assessor to withhold reimbursement for taxes paid on certain business property from a claimant who has failed to provide certain information to the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-502)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause and an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 337 implements the recommendations of the Department of Economic and Community Development relating to streamlining and improving the comprehensive economic development evaluation for the State's economic development programs and incentives. It also reduces duplicative statutory reporting requirements that will be included in the department's comprehensive evaluation process. The law also amends the definition of "economic development incentive." It also increases the maximum budget amounts of contributing programs and organizations that can be assessed for economic development evaluation and research and development evaluation. It repeals the provision of law that allows the State Tax Assessor to withhold reimbursement for taxes paid on certain business property from a claimant who has failed to provide certain information to the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Public Law 2009, chapter 337 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 9, 2009.