

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 LABOR

July 2009

STAFF:

CAROLYN RUSSO, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

MEMBERS:

TROY DALE JACKSON, CHAIR
SEN. STAN GERZOFKY
SEN. PETER MILLS

REP. JOHN L. TUTTLE, JR., CHAIR
REP. HERBERT E. CLARK
REP. TIMOTHY E. DRISCOLL
REP. ANNA D. BLODGETT
REP. STEVEN J. BUTTERFIELD
REP. PAUL E. GILBERT
REP. ANDRE E. CUSHING III
REP. JAMES MICHAEL HAMPER
REP. MICHAEL D. THIBODEAU
REP. BRUCE A. BICKFORD

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 Labor

LD 1492 An Act To Improve Opportunity in the Maine Woods

**PUBLIC 381
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J L JACKSON		S-333 JACKSON

This bill triples the penalty for violation of the law that requires foreign bond workers in logging occupations to use equipment owned by their employer and requires that proof of ownership be carried in the equipment and be shown to enforcement officials. It requires the Department of Conservation to provide assistance to the Department of Labor in enforcing the law. It also repeals the law establishing a rate-setting process for the services of contractors who work for large landowners.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-333)

The bill increases penalties for violations of the law requiring foreign bond workers in logging occupations to use equipment owned by their employer, requires that proof of such ownership be carried in the equipment and be shown to enforcement officials and requires the Department of Conservation to provide assistance to the Department of Labor in enforcing the law. This amendment removes restrictions on access to records regarding proof of ownership in order to facilitate compliance with this legislation.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 381 increases penalties for violations of the law requiring foreign bond workers in logging occupations to use equipment owned by their employer, requires that proof of such ownership be carried in the equipment and be shown to enforcement officials and requires the Department of Conservation to provide assistance to the Department of Labor in enforcing the law. This amendment removes restrictions on access to records regarding proof of ownership in order to facilitate compliance with this legislation.

Public Law 2009, chapter 381 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 12, 2009.

LD 1496 An Act To Protect Benefits for State Retirees

**PUBLIC 433
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL E		H-581 TUTTLE

This bill ensures that the cost-of-living adjustment to retirement benefits based on any percentage change in the Consumer Price Index does not affect the benefits of state retirees unless that change is an increase in the Consumer Price Index.

House Amendment "A" (H-581)

Like the bill, this amendment is designed to protect state retirees from the impact on retirement benefits of decreases in the Consumer Price Index. This amendment requires that if the Consumer Price Index decreases, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System shall set the percentage change at 0% for that September. The adjustment for the following year must be set based on the actuarially compounded Consumer Price Index for both years in a cost-neutral manner.

Joint Standing Committee on Labor

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 433 is designed to protect state retirees from the impact on retirement benefits of decreases in the Consumer Price Index. It requires that if the Consumer Price Index decreases, the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System shall set the percentage change at 0% for that September. The adjustment for the following year must be set based on the actuarially compounded Consumer Price Index for both years in a cost-neutral manner.

Public Law 2009, chapter 433 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 17, 2009.