

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
124TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the Second Regular Session of the 124th Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND
VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

April 2010

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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
SECOND 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 Second 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature is Monday, July 12, 2010. 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

**LD 1692 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
To Amend the Requirements Governing Direct Initiatives**

**ACCEPTED ONTP
REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN CRAVEN	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the text of a direct initiative of legislation identify the amount and source of revenue required to implement the initiative and, if applicable, identify the program or programs whose funding must be reduced or eliminated to implement the initiative. This resolution also directs the Office of Fiscal and Program Review to provide reasonable assistance to the proponent of the direct initiative.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-688)

This amendment, which was not adopted removes from the resolution the provision that requires the Legislature's office of fiscal review to provide assistance to a person filing a direct initiative to identify the fiscal impact and propose a means to fund the initiative. The amendment also makes a technical correction.

**LD 1712 An Act To Exempt Certain Mobile Homes from the Radon Testing
Requirement**

**LEAVE TO
WITHDRAW**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J R PERRY J	LTW	

This bill exempts rented mobile homes that are not affixed to permanent foundations from mandatory radon testing.

**LD 1713 An Act Pertaining to Educational Benefits for Veterans and Their
Dependents**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL NUTTING J	ONTP	

This bill amends the law pertaining to educational benefits for veterans and their dependents to provide that if a child is unable to enroll in a degree program prior to turning 22 years of age due to the veteran's total permanent disability claim pending with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, then the child may apply to begin the benefit within two years from the date of the veteran's award notification letter.