

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT**

July 2011

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**STAFF:**

ANNA T. BROOME, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

STATE OF MAINE  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND  
ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*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; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE* ..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT* ..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY* ..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*..... chapter # of enacted public Law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 125<sup>th</sup> Legislature is September 28, 2011. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

*Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government*

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to realign the functions of state, county and municipal government to create a system of government that meets the needs of Maine citizens efficiently and effectively, reduces the overall cost of government and avoids duplication in services while protecting the health, safety and welfare of Maine residents.

**LD 369**

**An Act To Authorize the Sale of Surplus Property to Nonprofit Animal Shelters**

**PUBLIC 9**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARVELL TRAHAN	OTP	

This bill allows nonprofit animal shelters to be considered qualifying nonprofit organizations for purposes of purchasing surplus property from the State.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 9 allows nonprofit animal shelters to be considered qualifying nonprofit organizations for purposes of purchasing surplus property from the State.

**LD 392**

**An Act To Amend the Requirements for Publishing Municipal Legal Notices**

**DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAYES	OTP MAJ ONTP MIN	

This bill allows municipalities to publish legal notices either in a newspaper distributed by 3rd class mail or electronically as long as the municipal officers adopt a publication policy. Under the alternative newspaper distribution option, the locally adopted policy must meet two requirements:

1. All households in the municipality must receive the alternative newspaper; and
2. The municipality must retain a record of all notices published in the alternative newspaper.

Under the electronic media distribution option, the locally adopted policy must meet three requirements:

1. More than 50% of all households in the municipality must subscribe to receive electronic notices;
2. Subscription must be provided at no cost; and
3. The municipality must retain a record of all notices distributed electronically.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-145)**

This amendment removes the provision from the bill permitting municipalities to publish legal notices electronically.