

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

July 2011

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STATE OF MAINE
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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 125th 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 125th 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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

Safety for the cost of conducting the fingerprinting and state and national criminal history record checks. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

LD 406 Resolve, To Clarify the Scope of Practice of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors Regarding Tobacco Use ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN ALFOND	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors to adopt rules for the licensure of alcohol and drug counselors by October 1, 2011 to include tobacco addiction as a drug addiction and clarify that treatment for tobacco addiction is within an alcohol and drug counselor's scope of practice.

LD 438 An Act To Provide Seed Money for the Construction of Senior Housing in the Town of Newport ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE	ONTP	

This bill provides funding to seed a public-private partnership for construction of senior housing in the Town of Newport contingent upon the community's contributing matching funds on a one-to-one basis.

LD 447 An Act To Raise the Minimum Wage MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT

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

This bill requires the minimum wage to increase to \$7.75 per hour starting October 1, 2011 and \$8.00 per hour starting October 1, 2012.

LD 453 An Act To Facilitate the Establishment of a Business in Maine by Providing Assistance with Document Completion ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AYOTTE SHERMAN	ONTP	

Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to establish within the Department of Environmental Protection's office of innovation and assistance a program of industry promotion that will provide assistance to individuals and businesses as they navigate through the multiple and varied documents and forms required by the department in its issuance of permits.

LD 457 An Act To Provide a Livable Wage for Maine Families ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAREY ALFOND	ONTP	

This bill requires the minimum hourly wage to be adjusted for inflation on October 1st of each year.

LD 465 An Act To Provide Efficient Delivery of Economic Development Services ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT COLLINS	ONTP	

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to consolidate the administration of state programs and funding that support economic development. Services that should be centralized and consolidated include, but are not limited to, marketing, business development and development assistance provided to municipalities.

This bill seeks to coordinate the utilization of federal, state and local economic development funds to provide the most efficient and effective delivery of services.

LD 516 An Act To Amend Maine Law Regarding Employment Practices for Certain Minors PUBLIC 174

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLOWMAN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-79 S-97 SULLIVAN

This bill repeals the limiting of hours minors 16 years of age may work while school is not in session. It repeals all limitations on the hours a minor 17 years of age may work. It also conforms Maine law to federal law.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-79)

This amendment extends the hours a student may work when school is in session. It extends the hours of work permitted per week from 20 to 24 and it extends the hours of work permitted per day from four to six. The amendment removes language pertaining to authorized school closures and hours of employment. The amendment also changes the hour to which a student may work on a day preceding a scheduled school day from 10 p.m. to 11