

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 APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

July 2011

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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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 542 An Act To Ensure Retirement Benefits for Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System ONTP

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

This bill establishes an option for new employees hired on or after July 1, 2012 to become members of the Judicial Retirement Program or the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program. Current members may make a one-time, irrevocable election to remain as members. Legislators who are not vested as members in the Legislative Retirement Program and first-time Legislators serving on or after December 5, 2012 may not be members of the Legislative Retirement Program. Vested Legislators serving on or after December 5, 2010 may make a one-time, irrevocable election to remain as members. Those who do not elect to become members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System are enrolled in the federal social security program.

LD 1043, as enacted, establishes a working group to develop a plan to replace the current defined benefit retirement plan for new state employees and teachers with a supplement to Social Security.

LD 565 An Act To Provide Funding for the World Acadian Congress Carried Over

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

This bill provides funds for the World Acadian Congress in fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13 only.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-184)

This amendment strikes the funding for the World Acadian Congress in fiscal year 2011-12.

This bill was removed from the Special Appropriations Table, recommitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 741 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Water and Sewer Infrastructure To Protect Public Health and To Facilitate the Expansion and Growth of Business Carried Over

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$30,000,000, will be used to repair and reconstruct water and sewer systems that the Department of Environmental Protection considers in greatest need of attention and the

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

greatest threat to the public health and the expansion of business.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 777 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Expand Necessary Capital Improvements at the University of Maine System That Support the Critical Disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math To Enhance Economic Development and Employment Opportunities for Maine Citizens Carried Over

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$40,000,000, will be used to expand necessary capital improvements in the critical disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics at the University of Maine System.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 807 An Act To Repeal the Bonding Authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority Carried Over

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WATERHOUSE ROSEN R		

This bill removes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority's ability to issue bonds or negotiable securities beginning October 1, 2011.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

LD 829 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation, Broadband Infrastructure, Downtown Revitalization, Land for Maine's Future and Training Facilities in Labor Market Areas with Higher than Average Unemployment for Tourism-related Training Carried Over

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$100,000,000, will be used to provide funds over 5 years for the State's transportation biennial capital work plan, the Communities for Maine's Future Program, the ConnectME Authority, the Land for Maine's Future Board, the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College