

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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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

LD 784

An Act To Exempt Persons Performing Simple Electrical Repairs from Licensing Requirements

PUBLIC 272

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEVENS JACKSON	ONTP A OTP-AM B OTP-AM C	H-300

This bill establishes requirements for a limited license for persons who wish to do basic home repairs of electrical systems.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-300)

This amendment replaces the bill and is a minority report of the committee. This amendment exempts persons doing certain incidental electrical work from the electrician licensing requirements.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-301)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve and is a minority report of the committee. The amendment directs the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to convene a working group with the Electricians' Examining Board, as well as other interested parties, to review the possible benefits and safety risks in creating a limited exception to the electrician licensing requirements for incidental work performed by persons whose occupations involve miscellaneous jobs of manual labor. The amendment requires the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to submit a report no later than January 15, 2012 following the review by the working group to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development to introduce a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 272 exempts persons doing certain incidental electrical work from the electrician licensing requirements.

LD 788

An Act To Prohibit Forced Payment of Labor Union Dues or Fees by Workers

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WINSOR	JT RULE 309	

This bill guarantees workers free choice in deciding whether to join or refrain from joining labor unions. It prohibits employers from deducting fees from nonunion employees.