

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

July 2011

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OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW  
5 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1635

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 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 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

***Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs***

System for tourism-related training, targeted to particular projects in labor markets that have an unemployment rate higher than the statewide average.

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

**LD 830      An Act To Provide for the 2011 and 2012 Allocations of the State      P & S 18**  
**Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHASE COLLINS	OTP-AM	H-665

This bill establishes a debt limit for most general obligation bonds and Maine Governmental Facilities Authority bonds originally issued for a term of in excess of 5 years at 5% of the General Fund revenues for the previous fiscal year.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-665)**

This amendment replaces the bill and establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2011 and 2012 and allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds. Under federal law, a maximum of \$277,820,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in this State in 2011 and at least \$277,820,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in this State in 2012.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2011, chapter 18 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2011 and 2012 and allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds.

**LD 842      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Research      Carried Over**  
**and Sustainable Development of Maine's Natural Resources**

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

The major portion of the funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount \$45,000,000, are to fund research, development and commercialization of innovative technology that relies on the sustainable use of Maine's natural resources such as forest and agricultural products and tidal and wind energy. The remaining \$5,000,000 support sustainable local economic development projects that enhance the economic benefits of increased reliance on local foods and recycling of consumer products. The funds must be administered by the Maine Technology Institute and competitively awarded.

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