

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

July 2011

STAFF:

ELIZABETH F. COOPER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
SCOTT MILLER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635

MEMBERS:

SEN. A. DAVID TRAHAN, CHAIR
SEN. DAVID R. HASTINGS, III
SEN. RICHARD G. WOODBURY

REP. L. GARY KNIGHT, CHAIR
REP. G. PAUL WATERHOUSE
REP. BRUCE A. BICKFORD
REP. PAUL EDWARD BENNETT
REP. DAVID R. BURNS
REP. R. RYAN HARMON
REP. SETH A. BERRY
REP. DONALD E. PILON
REP. MARK E. BRYANT
REP. ELSPETH M. FLEMINGS

STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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 Taxation

LD 836 An Act To Repeal the Alternative Minimum Tax

**DIED ON
ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNIGHT HASTINGS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-154

This bill repeals the alternative minimum tax for both individual and corporate taxpayers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-154)

This amendment replaces the bill. It makes the alternative minimum tax not apply to resident and nonresident individuals, trusts and estates after January 1, 2012, while retaining the existing credit for taxpayers who have previously paid the alternative minimum tax.

This bill was placed on the Special Appropriations Table and died on adjournment. See LD 1043, Part N.

**LD 838 An Act To Make the Homestead Property Tax Exemption More Flexible
for Municipalities and Remain Revenue Neutral for the State**

ONTP

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

This bill amends the law governing the homestead property tax exemption by reducing the exemption from \$10,000 to \$5,000 and providing that the State must reimburse municipalities for 100% of the exemption rather than 50%. The bill also authorizes municipalities by ordinance to add a local level of exemption of up to 200% of the state-required exemption. State reimbursement is not required for a locally adopted exemption.

**LD 847 An Act To Increase the Amount of Deductible Business Expense
Allowed for Property Placed in Service Beginning in 2011**

ONTP

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

This bill permits businesses to claim business expense deductions for purchases to the same extent as permitted under federal income tax law.