

# 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 ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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 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 Environment and Natural Resources**

LD 781 was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature pursuant to joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 839**      **Resolve, To Study Motor Fuel and Fuel Additives and To Explore Alternatives to Ethanol Motor Fuel**      **DIED IN CONCURRENCE**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'CONNOR	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-277

This resolve requires the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to convene a stakeholder group to conduct a study regarding motor fuel and fuel additives, including but not limited to acetaldehyde in ethanol motor fuel. The stakeholder group is directed to study the State's compliance with the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 with respect to emissions of acetaldehyde produced by the combustion of ethanol gasoline, and conduct a comprehensive review of the statewide costs associated with the acetaldehyde in ethanol motor fuel, including the corrosive effects of acetaldehyde on small engines, the effects of acetaldehyde on marine resources in the State and the negative impact such effects have on business in the State. The commissioner shall report the stakeholder group's findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources by December 1, 2011. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-277)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**LD 862**      **Resolve, Directing the Department of Environmental Protection To Amend Its Rules Governing the Length of Time Certain Permits Are Valid**      **RESOLVE 46**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINS	OTP-AM	S-56

This resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to amend its rules governing the protection of natural resources, site location of development and storm water to provide that permits issued with respect to these areas are valid for 5 years after they are issued and that a person who holds such a permit has 10 years to complete a project pursuant to such a permit.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-56)**

This amendment clarifies that the Department of Environmental Protection is required to amend its rules relating to the Natural Resources Protection Act. It also changes the time periods in the resolve to provide that permits issued with respect to the Natural Resources Protection Act and laws governing site location of development and storm water are valid for 4 years after they are issued and that a person who holds such a permit has 7 years to complete a project pursuant to that permit.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2011, chapter 46 directs the Department of Environmental Protection to amend its rules to provide that permits issued with respect to the Natural Resources Protection Act and laws governing site location of development