

# 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 STATE AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT**

July 2011

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STATE OF MAINE  
125<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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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 State and Local Government*

to erect and maintain advertising signs at a publicly owned bus stop.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 114 allows a municipality to erect and maintain outdoor advertising signs at a publicly owned bus stop. "Bus stop" is defined as a place where a public transport bus stops for the purpose of allowing passengers to board or leave the bus. The municipality is responsible for administration of outdoor advertising signs of publicly owned bus stops. Any revenue collected by a municipality through the advertising must be used for transportation purposes, including, but not limited to, maintenance of a publicly owned bus stop.

**LD 840**

**An Act Regarding the Hiring of Immediate Family Members in State Government**

**MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT**

Sponsor(s)

DILL C  
BLISS

Committee Report

ONTP MAJ  
OTP MIN

Amendments Adopted

This bill requires the Governor, the Legislature and the constitutional officers to hire or promote staff within those offices based on qualifications and prohibits the hiring of family or household members. This bill also prohibits an employee from supervising a family or household member of that employee, which includes a spouse, domestic partner, parent, natural or legally adopted child, stepchild, sibling, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law. It does not apply to anyone hired or promoted in those offices prior to October 1, 2011.

**LD 854**

**An Act To Require the Treasurer of State To Publish All State Liabilities**

**PUBLIC 188**

Sponsor(s)

THOMAS

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-148

This bill requires the Treasurer of State to publish all liabilities of the State on the publicly accessible portion of the treasurer's website.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-148)**

This amendment specifies that the Treasurer of State must publish by July 31st of each year the latest information available regarding the liabilities of the State as of June 30th of that year. It also clarifies that "liabilities of the State" does not include state contracts for goods and services or vendor information.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2011, chapter 188 requires the Treasurer of State to publish by July 31st of each year the latest information available regarding the liabilities of the State as of June 30th of that year. "Liabilities of the State" includes all state debts, loans, bonds, unfunded liabilities and promises to pay, including issued and unissued bonds, pension liabilities, promises to provide health insurance in future years, Maine Governmental Facilities Authority bonds and any other debt or obligation that the State has guaranteed or promised to pay, but does not include state contracts for goods and services or vendor information.