

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 841

Resolve, To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission on Affordable Housing

RESOLVE 108

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUSHING ALFOND	OTP-AM	H-511 S-333 COURTNEY

This resolve establishes the Blue Ribbon Commission on Affordable Housing. The commission is directed to conduct a study of affordable housing policy, review the status of housing and make recommendations to maximize the investment of available resources and best meet the housing needs of the people of this State. The commission is required to submit a report for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-511)

This amendment adds a representative of the board of trustees of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority to the membership of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Affordable Housing and specifies that the commission may not receive General Fund money but may seek outside funding to fulfill the commission's duties. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-333)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause. The amendment also explicitly exempts this study from the requirements of Joint Rule 353.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2011, chapter 108 establishes the Blue Ribbon Commission on Affordable Housing. The resolve directs the commission to conduct a study of affordable housing policy, review the status of housing and make recommendations to maximize the investment of available resources and best meet the housing needs of the people of this State. It requires the commission to seek outside funding to fulfill the commission's duties and to submit a report for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development by February 15, 2012.

LD 863

An Act To Allow the Maine State Housing Authority To Prepurchase Oil for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON MARTIN T	ONTP	

This bill provides the Maine State Housing Authority with the authority to enable the purchase of heating oil in bulk from qualified vendors at a discount for persons who are eligible to receive assistance from the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program in advance of federal funds.