

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
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

June 2012

MEMBERS:

SEN. RICHARD W. ROSEN, CHAIR
SEN. ROGER J. KATZ
SEN. DAWN HILL

REP. PATRICK S. A. FLOOD, CHAIR
REP. TOM J. WINSOR
REP. KATHLEEN D. CHASE
REP. TYLER CLARK
REP. KENNETH WADE FREDETTE
REP. DENNIS L. KESCHL
REP. MARGARET R. ROTUNDO
REP. JOHN L. MARTIN
REP. DAVID C. WEBSTER
REP. SARA R. STEVENS

STAFF:

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

STATE OF MAINE

125TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND 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 Second 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.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i>	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i>	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i> ...	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted private & special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of enacted public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature is Thursday, August 30, 2012. 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

LD 851 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Railroads ONTP
To Reduce the Cost of Shipping to Maine Businesses, Attract Tourists to
Maine and Facilitate the Development of Commuter Rail
Transportation To Reduce the Use of Oil in Maine

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

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be used to provide funds for railroad reconstruction and expansion that the business sector considers vital to the shipment of goods and the ability of the business community to compete. It requires that the Department of Transportation consult with the business and economic development sector to develop a list of priorities in regard to railroad construction and reconstruction projects focusing on projects important to tourism and projects with greatest visibility for increased commuter and passenger rail service and taking into consideration the extent that proposed projects reduce the consumption of oil.

LD 852 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine's PUBLIC 696
Natural Resource-based Economy

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TRAHAN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-576 S-591 MARTIN T

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. The funds provided in this bond issue will be used to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program with \$36,000,000 to continue Maine's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of \$36,000,000 in required matching funds. It provides \$12,000,000 for natural resource industry based infrastructure improvements and enhancements related to natural resource industry and to provide capital for state park maintenance and improvements. It also gives land conservation projects that protect and enhance deer wintering habitat preference and directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Conservation to pursue projects that protect and conserve deer wintering habitat.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-576)

This amendment reduces from \$36,000,000 to \$5,000,000 the amount of the General Fund bond issue authorized by this Act to purchase land and conservation easements, to be matched with at least \$5,000,000 in public and private contributions.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-591)

This amendment requires the Department of Conservation and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to take a proactive approach to pursuing land conservation projects that include significant wildlife habitat conservation, including conservation of priority deer wintering areas. It includes a description of priority deer wintering areas and provisions regarding the management of areas that contain wildlife or fish habitat. It includes a reference to Public Law 2005, chapter 462, Part B, section 6 regarding the process and selection criteria for the acquisition of working waterfront properties. It clarifies that the proceeds of the bonds for the Land for Maine's Future Board may be expended by the Department of Conservation for the acquisition of wildlife or fish habitat.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 696 provides for a bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, to purchase land and interest in land for conservation; water access, wildlife or fish habitat including deer wintering areas; outdoor recreation, including hunting and fishing; and working farmland preservation and working waterfront preservation.

LD 874 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Higher Education PUBLIC 700

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	S-574

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$27,100,000, will be used to improve equipment and facilities at the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System to better serve the underserved regions of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-574)

This amendment is the majority report. It reduces from \$27,100,000 to \$11,300,000 the amount of the General Fund bond issue authorized by the bill and specifies that the bond proceeds be used to build a diagnostic facility for the University of Maine System and for capital improvements and equipment for the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-575)

This amendment is the minority report. It reduces from \$27,100,000 to \$14,300,000 the amount of the General Fund bond issue authorized by the bill and specifies that the bond proceeds be used to build a diagnostic facility for the University of Maine System and for capital improvements and equipment for the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2011, chapter 700 provides for a bond issue, in the amount of \$11,300,000, for capital to build a diagnostic facility for the University of Maine System; for capital improvements and equipment, including machine tool technology, for the Maine Community College System; and for capital improvements and equipment at the Maine Maritime Academy.

LD 894 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in PUBLIC 697
Transportation Infrastructure To Meet the Needs of the Business Sector
and To Create Jobs

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DIAMOND	OTP-AM	S-568 S-590 THOMAS

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$62,000,000, will be used to repair and reconstruct highways and bridges that are considered