

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**LD 874**      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Educational Opportunities for Underserved Regions of the State**      **Carried Over**

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

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.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 894**      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Highway and Bridge Infrastructure To Meet the Needs of the Business Sector and To Create Jobs**      **Carried Over**

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

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 vital to the expansion of business interests by the business and economic development sector and essential to public safety. It requires that the Department of Transportation consult with the business and economic development sector to determine projects of highest priority to the business and economic development sector and establish a stakeholder group, if the bond passes, consisting of municipal officials, highway safety officials and members of the general public to develop a list of highway and bridge projects by level of priority relating to the safety of the general public.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 919**      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Weatherize and Upgrade the Energy Efficiency of Maine Homes and Businesses and To Provide for a Trained Workforce for Maine's Energy Future**      **Carried Over**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$55,000,000, will be used to support weatherization and other energy efficiency improvements for Maine homes, businesses and public buildings to save money, reduce dependence on increasingly scarce heating fuels, support health and comfort and protect the environment. Funds are also provided to expand the workforce for weatherization and energy efficiency services and other parts of a new green economy.

***Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs***

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 948      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create Jobs      Carried Over**  
**through Energy Efficiency**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be for grants to make buildings throughout the State more energy efficient. Grant recipients must commit to using the money saved through increased energy efficiency to hire workers or for other workforce development.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 979      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create an Animal      Carried Over**  
**and Plant Diagnostic Facility at the University of Maine**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EDGECOMB SHERMAN		

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$7,200,000, will be used to build an animal and plant diagnostic laboratory to enable animal and plant population health monitoring for exotic and zoonotic diseases as well as the study of animal and plant pathogens and containment of arthropods in a highly secure setting.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.

**LD 990      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of      Carried Over**  
**\$1,000,000 for Road and Bridge Construction**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$1,000,000, will be used to repair the road and bridge within the Town of Woodstock.

This bill was carried over to any special and/or regular session of the 125th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1190.