

# 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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**STAFF:**

ANNA T. BROOME, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

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***

public works contracts with the State, counties, cities and towns and every charitable or educational institution that is supported in whole or in part by aid granted by the State or by a municipality commit to coordinate with regional workforce development programs and make best efforts to hire low-income and long-term unemployed people. The bill also requires state public works programs to give hiring preference to residents of the county where the work is being performed.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-189)**

This amendment strikes out the sections of the bill relating to preferences for state bids. It also strikes out the section that gives preference in hiring residents of the county where the work on a public works project is being performed.

**LD 973      An Act To Shorten the Legislative Sessions**

**ACCEPTED  
ONTP REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY SHERMAN	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

This bill shortens legislative sessions beginning with the 126th Legislature by setting a statutory adjournment date of April 15th for the first regular session and March 15th for the second regular session. It also correspondingly reduces the salary paid to legislators by 30% beginning with the 126th Legislature. It requires a special session of the Legislature to adjourn no later than five legislative days after its convening.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-190)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, shortens the legislative sessions beginning with the 126th Legislature by setting a statutory adjournment date of May 15th for the first regular session, rather than April 15th as in the bill, and April 15th for the second regular session, rather than March 15th. It reduces the salary paid to Legislators by 10% beginning with the 126th Legislature, rather than 30% as in the bill. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**LD 984      RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine  
To Require a Two-thirds Vote To Approve the Issuance of a Bond or  
Security by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority**

**FINAL PASSAGE  
FAILED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WATERHOUSE ROSEN R	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	H-304 S-182 KATZ

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require a 2/3 vote of both Houses of the Legislature to authorize a bond or security to be issued by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-304)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and incorporates a fiscal note.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-182)**

## *Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government*

This amendment exempts from the 2/3 vote requirement bonds or securities authorized by the Legislature prior to January 1, 2011.

**LD 987      *An Act Regarding the Sale of Surplus Land Owned by the Department of Transportation*      ONTP**

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

This bill provides guidelines for the sale of land in a residential area that is owned by the Department of Transportation and being sold by the Governor including provisions for the notification of the affected municipalities and abutting landowners.

**LD 1002      *An Act To Encourage Affordable Housing in Municipal Zoning*      ONTP**

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to amend the current law to increase the availability of workforce housing and affordable housing. It proposes to create tools for municipalities to use to encourage developers to offer density bonuses, reduced lot sizes and other incentives for affordable housing.

**LD 1008      *Resolve, To Encourage State Agencies To Limit Their Use of Social Security Numbers*      RESOLVE 56**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNAPP	OTP-AM	H-303

This bill prohibits state agencies from including an individual's social security number in written correspondence. The prohibition does not apply to federal forms or tax forms. The bill defines "state agency" to mean the State and any office, department, agency, authority, commission, board, institution, hospital or other instrumentality of the State, including the Maine Turnpike Authority, the Maine Port Authority, the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Veterans' Homes, the Maine Public Employees Retirement System, the Maine Military Authority and all such other state entities.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-303)**

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to create a policy to provide guidance to state agencies to limit their use of social security numbers in outgoing written correspondence and interdepartmental correspondence by either not including a social security number or using only the last four digits of a number.

**Enacted Law Summary**