

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

May 2014

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

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

The *Digest* is arranged 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.

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 HOUSESHouse & 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
EMERGENCYenacted 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 Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is August 1, 2014. 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

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.

LD 230 An Act To Establish the Commission on Health Care Cost and Quality ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| GRAHAM LACHOWICZ | ONTP | |

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill establishes the Commission on Health Care Cost and Quality to monitor the accessibility, cost and quality of health care in the State. The bill also reestablishes the State Health Plan and requires the commission to develop the plan on a biennial basis.

LD 232 An Act To Increase the Base for the Cost-of-living Increase for Retired State Employees and Teachers PUBLIC 578 EMERGENCY

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SHERMAN | OTP-AM | S-375 |

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill increases the base for the calculation of cost-of-living increases for retired teachers and state employees under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from \$20,000 to \$30,000 beginning in 2014 and makes a grammatical correction.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-375)

This amendment replaces the bill and increases the base for the calculation of the one-time, noncumulative cost-of-living adjustment payable in 2014 for retired teachers and state employees under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from \$20,000 to \$30,000. The amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 578 increases from \$20,000 to \$30,000 the base for the calculation of the one-time, noncumulative cost-of-living adjustment payable in 2014 for retired teachers and state employees under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Public Law 2013, chapter 578 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 29, 2014.