

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

July 2013

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126th 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 126th Legislature is October 9, 2013. 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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Public Law 2013, chapter 95 ensures that all fire insurance companies and associations doing business in Maine collect and pay the fire investigation and prevention tax at the same rate. It requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to determine every five years the basis percentage of fire risk allocated to each line of insurance and requires that fire insurance companies and associations pay the established percentage based on the basis allocation.

LD 297 An Act To Require Forest Rangers To Be Trained in Order To Allow Them To Carry Firearms CARRIED OVER

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

This bill does the following.

1. It repeals two provisions of Public Law 1999, chapter 352 that require the Commissioner of Conservation to sell all bulletproof vests, firearms and related equipment and that prohibit the commissioner from purchasing bulletproof vests, firearms or related equipment without specific authorization by the Legislature.
2. It requires the Director of the Division of Forestry within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop a policy that requires all forest rangers to attend and complete a law enforcement training course at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy as a condition of continued employment. Forest rangers employed as such on the effective date of this bill are required to attend the 4-week preservice training course and forest rangers hired after the effective date are required to take the basic law enforcement training course. A forest ranger who has already attended a law enforcement training course at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy is exempt.
3. This bill requires the State Supervisor of the forest protection unit in the Division of Forestry and the director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to develop a plan to provide training to forest rangers in the use of firearms, bulletproof vests and other related equipment. The State Supervisor is directed to develop a plan to furnish such firearms and equipment to those forest rangers for the performance of their law enforcement duties. The plans must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety for review no later than November 1, 2013 and implemented, including furnishing firearms and related equipment, no later than January 1, 2014.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

LD 298 An Act Regarding the Membership of the Emergency Medical Services' Board PUBLIC 62

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WERTS	OTP-AM	H-35

This bill adds an additional representative of a statewide association of fire chiefs to the Emergency Medical Services' Board and clarifies that six members constitute a quorum of the board.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-35)

This amendment replaces the bill. It changes the composition of the Emergency Medical Services' Board so that a representative of the public is replaced by a fire chief. Both public member positions are currently vacant and one has been vacant since January 2008. The amendment also removes the language in the bill that changes the number

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

of members required for a quorum. It is no longer necessary as the membership remains at an odd number.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 62 changes the composition of the Emergency Medical Services' Board so that a representative of the public is replaced by a fire chief. Both public member positions were vacant and one has been vacant since January 2008.

LD 326 An Act To Update the Maine Emergency Management Laws

PUBLIC 146

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY LONG	OTP-AM	S-73

This bill does the following.

1. It amends the Maine Emergency Management Act to include in its purposes coordination of homeland security.
2. It enacts definitions of "homeland security" and "terrorism".
3. It adds to the duties of the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency certain planning and training and the maintenance of the State Emergency Operations Center. It also requires that public education programs include information about prevention of emergency situations.
4. It designates the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management as the Governor's homeland security advisor.
5. It changes the name of the Disaster Relief Fund to the Disaster Recovery Fund to more accurately reflect the fund's purpose to support long-term community disaster recovery.
6. It clarifies local and state emergency planning requirements and ensures current national standards are followed.
7. It provides that emergency management forces deployed under either the Emergency Management Assistance Compact and the International Emergency Management Assistance Compact are considered state employees for the purposes of immunity from liability and workers' compensation coverage. It specifies that a person holding a valid professional license in the State may be designated a member of the emergency management forces in that profession after verification of current license.
8. It consolidates in one subchapter language governing situation-specific operational plans and adds general language governing any agency-specific emergency plans.
9. It changes the general dam hazard evaluation requirement from at least once every six years to at least once every 12 years and changes the time frame for hazard evaluations from within 30 days of a request to within 60 days of a request.
10. It changes the dam condition inspection frequency of high and significant hazard dams from at least once every four years to at least once every six years.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-73)

This amendment adds to the list of agencies that must be consulted by the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency regarding a mass fatality plan the Department of Health and Human Services and the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention within that department and allows for other agencies to be consulted. It