

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
126<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 2013

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# STATE OF MAINE

126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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 126<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 126<sup>th</sup> 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 State and Local Government*

**LD 339 An Act To Require Public Hearings by the Legislature To Be Recorded and Posted on the Internet**

**ACCEPTED  
MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROOKS GRATWICK	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires that all joint standing committee public hearings are recorded and made accessible to the public as a written transcript, audio recording, video recording or other electronic recording on the Legislature's website within 72 hours of a public hearing beginning January 1, 2014. A committee may not hold a work session on a bill unless the record is available on the Legislature's website. The State Archivist is required to assist and advise the Legislative Council in establishing a records management program for committee public hearings.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-228)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment eliminates the requirement in the bill that a record of a public hearing be accessible to the public on the Legislature's website within 72 hours of the public hearing. The amendment also eliminates the requirement in the bill that a committee may not hold a work session on a bill unless the public hearing record of the bill is accessible to the public on the Legislature's website. The amendment also removes written transcript and video recording and other electronic recording from the types of records in which the public hearing could be recorded and leaves audio recording as the form for the permanent record. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**LD 340 Resolve, Authorizing the Sale of Certain Property in Augusta to Motivational Services, Inc.**

**ACCEPTED  
MAJORITY  
(ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WILSON KATZ	ONTP OTP-AM	

This resolve gives the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services authority to sell to Motivational Services, Inc., the property now or formerly known as "the doctors' houses" located at 6 and 10 Arsenal Heights Drive on the east campus of the land comprising the site of what is now or was formerly known as the Augusta Mental Health Institute.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-201)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and gives authority to the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell the property located at 6 and 10 Arsenal Heights Drive to a buyer the commissioner approves, instead of specifying that the property must be sold to Motivational Services, Inc.

**LD 357 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Augusta Parking District**

**P & S 4**

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

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

This bill repeals a provision contained in Private and Special Law 1947, chapter 124, that requires the dissolution and conveyance of assets from the Augusta Parking District to the City of Augusta upon payment of all bonds issued by the district.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 4 repeals a provision contained in Private and Special Law 1947, chapter 124, that requires the dissolution and conveyance of assets from the Augusta Parking District to the City of Augusta upon payment of all bonds issued by the district.

**LD 397      An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Development and Administration of Municipal Budgets in Unorganized Territories      ONTP**

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

This bill amends the laws governing the development and administration of the county portion of municipal cost component budgets for the unorganized territory. The bill changes counties' annual deadlines for submitting to state officials their unorganized territory municipal cost component budgets from November 7th to February 1st. The bill separates a county's review of its unorganized territory municipal cost component budget from its general fund budget review, thus allowing more time for both processes. The bill also eliminates the role of a county budget committee in approving an excess or increase in the county growth limitation factor for the unorganized territory.

**LD 398      An Act To Eliminate the Constituent Services Allowance for Legislators      ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill eliminates the constituent services allowance for Legislators.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-426)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It changes the title and strikes and replaces the bill and provides that a Legislator may opt out of receiving the constituent services allowance. The amendment also provides that a Legislator who elects to receive the constituent services allowance must keep a record of expenses paid for with the allowance through April 1st of the 2nd year of the legislative biennium. The record must be submitted by April 15th of that year to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council, and the executive director must make the records available upon request and free of charge.

**LD 399      An Act To Change the Name of the Department of Audit      PUBLIC 16**

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