

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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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

LD 294 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Construct a Facility To Assist Maine Agriculture in Control of Animal and Plant Diagnostics ONTP

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

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

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$8,000,000 to be used to provide funds to assist Maine agriculture and to protect Maine farms through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

LD 1861, as enacted by the 126th Legislature, contains a similar bond proposal.

LD 295 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Weatherization Rebates for Veterans and Persons Eligible for Social Security ONTP

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

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

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$75,000,000 and directs the Efficiency Maine Trust to establish a weatherization rebate program for persons who receive social security retirement benefits or are veterans or dependents of veterans if the general obligation bond is approved by referendum.

LD 359 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Implement the Riverfront Island Master Plan ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN LIBBY N	ONTP	

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

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$20,000,000 to be used to implement the Riverfront Island Master Plan along the Androscoggin River in Lewiston and Auburn.

LD 360 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Rail Lines in Western Maine ONTP

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

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

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

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$18,000,000 to be used to improve rail lines in western Maine, particularly the rail line from Portland to Lewiston.

LD 368 An Act To Ensure the Continuation of Dairy Farming

ONTP

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

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. 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 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, which proposes to provide financial and technical assistance to dairy farms in the State to adapt new techniques and utilize new technology to offset the high cost of farming overhead, including the cost of feed and fuel.

**LD 378 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Complete
Renovation of a Pier at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute**

ONTP

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

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

This bill authorizes a General fund bond issue in the amount of \$1,000,000 to be used to complete renovation of a pier at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute.

**LD 390 An Act To Restore MaineCare Coverage for Ambulatory Surgical
Center Services**

**P & S 29
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COOPER GRATWICK	OTP-AM ONTP	H-840

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 restores funding for MaineCare coverage for ambulatory surgical center services.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-840)

This amendment removes from the emergency preamble the word "inpatient," which was included in the bill in error. This amendment removes the appropriations and allocations section and adds a requirement that the Department of Health and Human Services adopt routine technical rules regarding the reimbursement of ambulatory