

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**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 ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

July 2013

**STAFF:**

SUSAN Z. JOHANNESMAN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. JAMES A. BOYLE, CHAIR  
SEN. GEOFFREY M. GRATWICK  
SEN. THOMAS B. SAVIELLO

REP. JOAN W. WELSH, CHAIR  
REP. DENISE P. HARLOW  
REP. JANICE E. COOPER  
REP. GAY M. GRANT  
REP. PAUL D. MCGOWAN  
REP. BERNARD L. A. AYOTTE  
REP. RICKY D. LONG  
REP. RICHARD H. CAMPBELL  
REP. ROGER E. REED  
REP. BENJAMIN M. CHIPMAN

# 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 Environment and Natural Resources*

Public Law 2013, chapter 232 amends the current law regarding the reporting requirement for children's products that contain priority chemicals by requiring that manufacturers or distributors provide notice within 30 days to the Department of Environmental Protection when the product is sold in the State after the initial 180-day reporting period ends.

**LD 432      An Act To Amend the Gifting of Land Exemption under the Subdivision Laws      ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>   | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNSON C<br>HARLOW | ONTP                    |                           |

This bill amends the subdivision law exemption for gifts to relatives by removing the requirement that the donor of the gifted property must have held the property for a continuous period of 5 years prior to the division by gift. The bill also provides that if property that is exempt from the subdivision law pursuant to the gifts to relatives exemption is transferred within 10 years of when the property was acquired by the donor, a lot is created for purposes of the subdivision law.

**LD 437      An Act To Amend the State General Permit Process for Tidal Power To Remove a Conflict with a Federal Permit Requirement      PUBLIC 177**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>  | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| THIBODEAU<br>MAKER | OTP-AM                  | S-62                      |

Currently, an applicant for a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project must file an application with the Department of Environmental Protection that contains a copy of an environmental assessment issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that includes a finding of no significant environmental impact. This bill allows the department to accept an application prior to the FERC's issuance of a finding of no significant environmental impact. The bill also requires the department to notify an applicant within 60 days of its acceptance of the application for processing or within 30 days of the FERC's issuance of a finding of no significant environmental impact, whichever occurs later.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-62)**

This amendment corrects terminology in the bill related to the Department of Environmental Protection's acceptance of an application for a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project as complete for processing.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 177 allows the Department of Environmental Protection to accept an application for a tidal energy demonstration project as complete for processing prior to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's issuance of a finding of no significant environmental impact. It also requires the department of notify an applicant within 60 days of its acceptance of the application as complete for processing or within 30 days of the FERC's issuance of a finding of no significant environmental impact, whichever occurs later.

**LD 453      An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Gasoline That Contains Corn-based Ethanol as an Additive at a Level Greater than 10 Percent by Volume      PUBLIC 69**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LONG<br>SAVIELLO  | OTP-AM                  | H-56                      |