

# 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

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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 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*

This bill changes the name of the Department of Audit to the Office of the State Auditor.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 16 changes the name of the Department of Audit to the Office of the State Auditor.

**LD 413      An Act To Expand Eligible Project Costs in Development Districts      DIED BETWEEN HOUSES**

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

This bill permits tax increment financing funds to be used to fund projects approved by more than one municipality under an interlocal agreement.

**LD 465      An Act To Improve Access to Public Land Records      ACCEPTED MAJORITY (ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill improves access to public land records by limiting the fees registries of deeds may charge for digital copies. Maine's Freedom of Access Act limits the fees state agencies may charge for copies of public records to the cost of producing copies, but the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 33 permits registries of deeds to charge a much higher fee for digital copies. The bill also removes outdated references to abstracts, since registries of deeds no longer prepare such documents.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-199)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and changes the cost for any quantity of copies produced on media other than paper from 110% of the costs incurred to fulfill the copies request to 125% of the costs incurred.

**LD 474      An Act To Provide for Edible Landscaping in a Portion of Capitol Park      PUBLIC 153**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN	OTP-AM ONTP	H-102

This bill requires edible landscaping in a portion of Capitol Park. The development of the edible landscaping portion of Capitol Park is subject to available funding, and the State House and Capitol Park Commission may seek and accept public and private funds for this purpose.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-102)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It strikes the bill and directs the State House and Capitol Park Commission to arrange for and implement a plan to incorporate food-producing landscaping into a portion of