

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 STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

July 2013

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH 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 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.

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plans, at all registries of deeds by \$6. Public Law 2013, chapter 370 separates paper copies from electronic abstracts and images for the purpose of fees assessed by county registries of deeds and further breaks down electronic copies into those downloaded at the office of a county registry of deeds and those downloaded from a county registry of deeds website. In current law, the cost for digital abstracts and images is 50¢ per page, with a fee of 5¢ per page for copies of 1,000 or more digital abstracts and copies of consecutive records. Public Law 2013, chapter 370 provides for a fee of 5¢ per image or electronic abstract for acquiring downloads of 1,000 or more consecutive electronic images or electronic abstracts from a county registry of deeds equipped to provide downloads. It also provides for no charge per image from a county registry of deeds website for the first 500 images or electronic abstracts, or a combination of the first 500 images and electronic abstracts, acquired by a person in a calendar year and 50¢ per image or electronic abstract for each subsequent image or electronic abstract acquired in the same calendar year.

LD 560 An Act To Establish Maine Seniors Day

PUBLIC 143

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R BOYLE	OTP-AM	H-132

This bill establishes the second Saturday in September of each year as Maine Seniors Day to honor senior citizens of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-132)

This amendment allows state agencies with promotional budgets to promote Maine Seniors Day, which the bill establishes to honor senior citizens of the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 143 establishes the second Saturday in September of each year as Maine Seniors Day to honor senior citizens of the State and allows state agencies with promotional budgets to promote Maine Seniors Day.

LD 586 An Act To Enable Municipalities To Establish Business Development Loan Programs Using Municipally Raised or Appropriated Money

PUBLIC 206

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P	OTP-AM ONTP	H-229

This bill amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5726 to provide that municipalities may raise or appropriate money to establish revolving loan fund programs to assist local for-profit and nonprofit enterprises in their job creation and job retention efforts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-229)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and changes the bill to require a municipality to receive approval at a referendum election before raising and appropriating money to establish a revolving loan fund program to assist in local job creation and retention.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 206 amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5726 to provide that a municipality, if the municipality receives approval at a referendum election, may raise or appropriate money to

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establish revolving loan fund programs to assist local for-profit and nonprofit enterprises in their job creation and job retention efforts.

LD 587 An Act To Designate Election Day as an Official State Holiday

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This bill designates Election Day, the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, as a state holiday.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-230)

This amendment is the minority report and replaces the bill. The amendment directs the Secretary of State to convene a working group to study election day holiday options. The amendment requires the working group to report to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by January 30, 2014 and provides the committee with the opportunity to submit a bill related to the subject matter of the report.

LD 613 Resolve, Directing the Bureau of General Services To Erect a Memorial in Memory of Those Who Died at the Former Augusta Mental Health Institute

ONTP

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

This resolve directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to design and erect a memorial on the grounds of the former Augusta Mental Health Institute for the individuals who died at the former Augusta Mental Health Institute. It authorizes the bureau to accept state and local funds, gifts and other contributions to be used solely for the costs of the memorial. It also includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$50,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 to fund the memorial.

LD 740 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require That the Attorney General Be Elected by Popular Vote

**ACCEPTED
MAJORITY
(ONTP) REPORT**

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

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment that provides for direct popular election biennially of the Attorney General in the manner currently provided for Senators and Representatives.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-236)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and proposes the quadrennial election of the Attorney General by nonpartisan ballot beginning in 2014.