

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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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.

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

member of the task force instead of having the Governor appoint two public members. It requires the task force to study strategies for remote citizen participation and to make pilot program recommendations. It provides that the office of the Secretary of the Senate and office of the Clerk of the House assist the task force upon request. It also provides that the task force submit a preliminary report by December 4, 2013 and in addition a final report on November 5, 2014.

LD 856 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine** **ONTP**
To Require State Officers To Be Elected by a Majority of Voters

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

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that a candidate for the office of Governor, State Senator or State Representative receive more than 50% of the votes cast to be elected. Currently, the candidate who receives the largest number of votes, regardless of that number's percentage of the total number of votes cast, is elected. This resolution requires a run-off election between the two persons who received the largest number of votes when no candidate received more than 50% of the total number of votes cast. The person who receives the larger number of votes in the run-off election is declared the winner.

LD 858 **An Act To Partially Fund Tax Breaks for the Wealthy by Eliminating** **ONTP**
Certain Gubernatorial Benefits

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

This bill repeals the provision that provides the Governor a retirement allowance, excepts the Governor from eligibility for the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program and any state employee group health plan, and authorizes the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell the Blaine House, with the proceeds to be deposited into the General Fund.

LD 878 **An Act To Provide a Preference for Maine Bidders on State Contracts** **ONTP**

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

This bill gives preference in the award of construction and public works contracts by the State and its political subdivisions to workers and bidders who are residents of this State, as long as their bids are not more than 5% over bids submitted by out-of-state bidders.