

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
126<sup>TH</sup> 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**  
**126<sup>TH</sup> 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 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 Second Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> 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 939      An Act To Restore Maine's Groundfishing Industry      ONTP**

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

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

This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$3,500,000 annually to the Department of Marine Resources beginning in fiscal year 2013-14 for the purchase of federal groundfishing permits.

**LD 940      An Act To Reestablish State-municipal Revenue-sharing as a Compact between the State and Municipal Governments      ONTP**

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

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

Beginning July 1, 2015, this bill restructures two funds that are the depositories of state-municipal revenue-sharing resources prior to distribution to municipalities and renames the funds as irrevocable trust funds.

**LD 942      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Deficient State Highways, Bridges and Aviation, Marine, Rail and Transit Facilities      ONTP**

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

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

The funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$120,000,000 will be used for improvements to highways and bridges and rail, aviation, pedestrian and bicycle and marine facilities and to replace transit buses. Highway and bridge investments will be in high-priority roads that are rated in poor or unacceptable condition. Funding is also provided to repair state aid minor collector highways in partnership with municipalities under the Secondary Road Program Fund. Bond funds will match federal, local and private funds providing a total match of at least \$173,000,000.

**LD 951      An Act To Repeal the 2-year Limit on Methadone and Suboxone Treatments under MaineCare      ONTP**

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

***Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs***

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.

Current law limits MaineCare coverage or reimbursement for buprenorphine and naloxone combination drugs, also known as Suboxone, for the treatment of addiction to opioids and for methadone for the treatment of addiction to opiates, to 24 months. This bill repeals the 24-month limit.

**LD 979      An Act To Exempt the Sale of the United States Flag from the Sales Tax      ONTP**

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

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. 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 exempts sales of United States flags made entirely of cloth from sales tax.

**LD 998      An Act To Provide Consistency in the Application of the Property Tax Exemption for Religious Organizations      ONTP**

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

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. 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 expands the property tax exemption for property owned by religious organizations to include all real and personal property owned and occupied or used solely for its own purposes by a religious organization in connection with religious worship and removes the \$20,000 limitation on the exemption for parsonages and the \$6,000 limitation on the exemption for personal property.

**LD 1010      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water      ONTP**

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

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

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$50,000,000 to be used to provide funds for the Maine Clean Water Fund to assist municipalities in achieving clean water by addressing various water quality issues