

# 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 ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

July 2013

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# STATE OF MAINE

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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 Environment and Natural Resources***

This bill exempts motorized recreational gold prospecting from the permit requirements of the Natural Resources Protection Act. It identifies criteria that must be met in order to undertake the activity without a permit. The bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to each adopt rules identifying specific waters in which the activity is not allowed.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-373)**

This amendment changes the horsepower and hose size of the equipment that may be used in motorized recreational gold prospecting. It strikes the provision of the bill that identifies waters where motorized recreational gold prospecting is prohibited and replaces it with authorization for the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Land Use Planning Commission to adopt rules identifying specific waters in which the activity is not allowed. The amendment also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources to report out a bill related to motorized recreational gold prospecting to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 260 exempts motorized recreational gold prospecting from the permit requirements of the Natural Resources Protection Act if specified criteria are met. It authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Land Use Planning Commission to adopt rules identifying specific waters in which the activity is not allowed. It also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources to report out a bill related to motorized recreational gold prospecting to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

### **LD 1178 An Act To Encourage the Use of Biofuels in the State**

**PUBLIC 124**

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

This bill requires that a seller of biomass-based diesel blend or biodiesel blend provide documentation of the amount of biofuel in the blended products at the time of sale. It provides that a transferee of these blended products is not liable for failing to verify the accuracy of the information included in any transfer document or for any other liability arising from the transferee's reliance on such information.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 124 requires that a seller of biomass-based diesel blend or biodiesel blend provide documentation of the amount of biofuel in the blended products at the time of sale. It provides that a transferee of these blended products is not liable for failing to verify the accuracy of the information included in any transfer document or for any other liability arising from the transferee's reliance on such information.

### **LD 1181 An Act To Further Strengthen the Protection of Pregnant Women and Children from Toxic Chemicals**

**VETO  
SUSTAINED**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL EVES	OTP-AM OTP-AM	S-310 S-353 HILL

This bill amends the laws governing toxic chemicals in children's products. The bill defines "contaminant" and adds a publication of an authoritative state agency to the definition of "credible scientific evidence." The bill