

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 LABOR, COMMERCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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.

LD 1351 An Act To Attract Military Families to Maine

ONTP

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

This bill provides that the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation may recommend legislation or other measures to the Governor and the Legislature for the purpose of assisting the spouses of current and former members of the United States Armed Forces in obtaining any professional license.

LD 1352 An Act To Provide Integrated Community-based Employment and Customized Employment for Persons with Disabilities

PUBLIC 335

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND VOLK	OTP-AM OTP-AM	S-187 S-196 PATRICK

Part A of this bill requires the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Labor, in carrying out their duties to provide services and supports to persons with disabilities, to:

1. Include as a core component, the employment of persons with disabilities in “integrated community-based employment” and “customized employment”:
 - A. “Integrated community-based employment” means employment in the competitive labor market in the general community, or through self-employment, with compensation being at least minimum wage and at least the same level of prevailing wage and benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work to persons without disabilities; and
 - B. “Customized employment” means employment as part of a flexible blend of strategies, services and supports through voluntary negotiation with the employer;
2. Offer, as the first and preferred option, employment services that will support the employment of persons with disabilities;
3. Coordinate their efforts to ensure that the programs directed, the funding managed and the policies adopted by each agency support the gaining of employment by persons with disabilities; and
4. When permissible under the law, share information regarding the use of services and other data in order to monitor progress toward facilitating the employment of persons with disabilities.

Part A also specifies that a person with a disability who receives services from the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Labor may not be required to accept employment services from that agency or to experience a loss of services as a result of choosing not to explore employment options.

Part B of this bill establishes, until October 1, 2016, the Employment First Maine Coalition within the Disability Rights Center, which is the protection and advocacy agency for persons with disabilities designated by the Governor pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 19502. Among its duties, the Employment First Maine Coalition is directed to: