

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

July 2013

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# STATE OF MAINE

126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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 Judiciary**

This amendment corrects a reference to a personal representative.

This amendment corrects a clerical error in describing the Secretary of State's responsibility as the filing office to accept a written amendment or information statement in the form or format approved by the International Association of Commercial Administrators or adopted by rule by the Secretary of State.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2013, chapter 317 enacts the 2010 amendments to the Uniform Commercial Code, Article 9-A, which were adopted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. The changes take effect July 1, 2013.

The changes include Alternative A, as proposed by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, which provides that if the debtor is an individual to whom this State has issued a driver's license or a non-driver identification card and it has not expired, then the correct debtor name for the financing statement is the name on the driver's license or nondriver identification card.

Public Law 2013, chapter 317 modifies the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws proposal with regard to written financing statements and amendments by providing that a filing office may not reject filings that are made on forms approved by the International Association of Commercial Administrators or a successor organization or approved by the Secretary of State by rule.

Public Law 2013, chapter 317 was adopted as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2013.

**LD 1389 An Act To Expedite the Foreclosure Process**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill:

1. Allows an employee of a financial institution or credit union who is not an attorney to appear for that institution in connection with a foreclosure action; and
2. Clarifies the standards for foreclosure mediation and allows for an expedited foreclosure of abandoned property.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

**LD 1400 Resolve, Directing the Attorney General To Report on the Status of Discussions on Domestic Violence on Tribal Lands**

**RESOLVE 51  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SOCTOMAH BURNS	OTP-AM	H-275

This resolve directs the Attorney General to consult with federally recognized tribes in the State that have tribal domestic violence programs to establish procedures and coordinate with the State concerning the newly enacted

## *Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary*

tribal provisions of the federal Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and to provide services to victims of domestic violence. The Attorney General is required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary by January 1, 2014.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-275)**

This amendment replaces the resolve and directs the Attorney General to report on discussions among representatives of the governments of the four federally recognized tribes in the State, domestic violence advocates and the State concerning the social, economic and legal issues involved in domestic violence on tribal lands and coordination of tribal and state efforts to address domestic violence.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2013, chapter 51 directs the Attorney General to report on discussions among representatives of the governments of the four federally recognized tribes in the State, domestic violence advocates and the State concerning the social, economic and legal issues involved in domestic violence on tribal lands and coordination of tribal and state efforts to address domestic violence.

Resolve 2013, chapter 51 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 11, 2013.

<b>LD 1401</b>	<b>An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of and Access to Birth Certificates and Certain Medical Information</b>	<b>ONTP</b>
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KENT GERZOFSKY	ONTP	

This bill:

1. Eliminates the current restriction that an adoptee be at least 18 years of age for the court to release medical or genetic information contained in court records relating to the adoption; and
2. Repeals the provisions of law that require that an original birth record of an adoptee be sealed and that a new certificate of birth be created.

<b>LD 1424</b>	<b>An Act To Increase Mileage Reimbursement and Compensation for Jurors</b>	<b>CARRIED OVER</b>
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROOKS ALFOND	OTP-AM	

This bill changes the mileage rate paid to jurors and witnesses from 15¢ per mile and 22¢ per mile, respectively, to the rate paid by the State for travel by employees of the State for the business of the State, which is currently 44¢ per mile. This bill also increases the daily rate paid to jurors and witnesses from \$10 to \$20.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-232)**

This amendment strikes out the provisions of the bill that increase the compensation and mileage rates for court witnesses. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and