

# 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 TAXATION**

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 Taxation

This bill provides a complete exemption from property tax for land enrolled under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law when the forest products harvested from that land are processed solely at mills located in the United States.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-397)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, changes the date of application of the Act from property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2014 to property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2015. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

### LD 1654    **An Act To Amend the Municipal Hardship or Poverty Tax Abatement Law To Reflect the Replacement of the Circuitbreaker Program**    ONTP

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

This bill allows municipal officers when considering a request for a property tax abatement based on hardship or poverty to take into account any property tax fairness credit received by that the applicant when determining the ability of the applicant to pay the assessed property taxes.

### LD 1661    **An Act To Clarify the Provisions of a Historic Preservation Tax Credit**    PUBLIC 550

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN GOODE	OTP-AM	S-493

Under current law a person is entitled to an income tax credit of not more than \$5,000,000 for each certified rehabilitation project engaged in by that person. This bill provides that certified rehabilitation projects include rehabilitation projects involving only a portion of a certified historic structure or complex of certified historic structures when undertaken in phases or by different entities.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-493)

This amendment provides that the \$5,000,000 cap on the tax credit applies with respect to each certified rehabilitation or to each building that is a component of a certified historic structure, whichever is greater. The amendment also provides that a certified rehabilitation that is placed in service over multiple taxable years is allowed up to \$5,000,000 in credit for the portion of the certified rehabilitation placed in service for each taxable year. This change allows a portion of a building or a single building in a complex to qualify for the \$5,000,000 cap. The change applies to credits for which the first credit installment is claimed on a return filed for a tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 550 provides that the \$5,000,000 cap on the historic rehabilitation tax credit applies with respect to each certified rehabilitation or to each building that is a component of a certified historic structure, whichever is greater. The law also provides that a certified rehabilitation that is placed in service over multiple taxable years is allowed up to \$5,000,000 in credit for the portion of the certified rehabilitation placed in service for each taxable year. This change allows a portion of a building or a single building in a complex to qualify for the \$5,000,000 cap. The change applies to credits for which the first credit installment is claimed on a return filed for a tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2014.