

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

May 2014

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH 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 HOUSESHouse & 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
EMERGENCYenacted 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 126th 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 Judiciary

LD 1789 An Act To Modernize and Improve the Efficiency of Maine's Courts

PUBLIC 571

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE HASKELL	OTP-AM	H-765

This bill authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional securities in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 to fund the planning, purchasing, customizing and implementing of a case management, data storage, and electronic filing system for the judicial branch in order to increase court efficiency and improve public service and safety. The bill requires the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters regarding this system.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-765)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 571 authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional securities in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000 to fund the planning, purchasing, customizing and implementing of a case management, data storage and electronic filing system for the judicial branch in order to increase court efficiency and improve public service and safety. It requires the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters regarding this system.

LD 1809 An Act Concerning Meetings of Boards of Trustees and Governing Bodies of Quasi-municipal Corporations and Districts That Provide Water, Sewer and Sanitary Services

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM ONTP	H-798 H-812 WILLETTE

This bill prohibits the use of telephonic, video, electronic or other similar means of communication to conduct public proceedings of elected public bodies of municipalities, quasi-municipal entities and school administrative units. It allows nonelected public bodies of municipalities, quasi-municipalities and school administrative units to do so only if specific requirements are met. Subject to the listed requirements, a body may conduct a public proceeding during which a member of the body participates in the discussion or transaction of public or governmental business through telephonic, video, electronic or other similar means of communication.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-798)

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. This amendment limits the application of the bill to the governing bodies of quasi-municipal corporations and districts, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2351, subsection 4, that provide water, sewer or sanitary services if the governing bodies adopt policies that meet specified requirements.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-812)

This amendment expressly allows a member of the Loring Development Authority of Maine, or the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority who is not physically present at a meeting but who is participating through combined audio and video means of communication to be considered present for purposes of establishing a quorum, and to participate and vote in all proceedings of the respective authority.