

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

consulting with affected municipalities, to conduct appropriate mosquito management activities in response to mosquito-borne disease public health threats. In addition, the law authorizes municipalities to cooperate in managing mosquitoes through the formation of mosquito management districts. It establishes the Maine Mosquito Management Fund to provide funding for mosquito management activities.

LD 1823 An Act To Amend the Outcome-based Forestry Experiment Laws

ONTP

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

This bill amends the laws governing outcome-based forest policy experimental areas. It amends the membership of the technical panel assessing those experimental areas. It requires the technical panel to prepare an independent assessment and amends reporting requirements. It also repeals these laws July 1, 2021.

LD 1838 An Act To Expand Affordable Heating Investments with Maine's Public Resources

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
YOUNGBLOOD	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill establishes the Affordable Heating from Maine's Forests Fund, administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust. The fund receives revenue from the sale of timber and other things of value from Maine's public reserved lands. In 2014, a total of \$1,000,000 will be transferred from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund to the Affordable Heating from Maine's Forests Fund, and in subsequent years, \$1,250,000 or \$1,000,000 will be transferred annually depending on the quantity of wood harvested. The Efficiency Maine Trust is required to use the funding for measures that reduce residential heating costs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-480)

This amendment, which is the minority report, renames the Affordable Heating from Maine's Forests Fund established in the bill the Low-income Affordable Heating Assistance from Maine's Forests Fund.

The amendment provides that the fund administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust must be used for investments in affordable measures that reduce residential heating costs for individuals eligible for the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program. The amendment also provides that the Treasurer of State is required to transfer funds from the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund to the Low-income Affordable Heating Assistance from Maine's Forests Fund, but only if the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry determines that the transfer of funds will not significantly impair management of public lands. It also provides that the transfer of funds will begin September 1, 2014 rather than March 1, 2014. It also removes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause. Finally, the amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section.

LD 1847 An Act To Clarify Outcome-based Forestry

PUBLIC 542

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOYLE CRAY	OTP-AM	S-502