

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 APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

May 2014

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MAUREEN S. DAWSON, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
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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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Amendment "B."

Public Law 2013, chapter 595 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 1, 2014.

LD 1861 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create an Animal and Plant Disease and Insect Control Facility Administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service PUBLIC 572

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

The funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$8,000,000 will be used to provide funds to assist Maine agriculture and to protect Maine farms through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 572 provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$8,000,000 to be used to assist Maine agriculture and to protect Maine farms through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

This law is amended by Public Law 2013, chapter 606 (LD 1865 as enacted).

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

LD 1864 An Act To Support Nursing Facilities and Home Care for Seniors and Create a Tax Credit for Primary Care Professionals Practicing in Underserved Areas Died Between Houses

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

This bill provides a primary care access tax credit for up to five eligible primary care professionals each year who practice in an underserved area in the State. It creates a graduated schedule for claiming the credit allowing an eligible primary care professional to claim an amount equal to the annual payments made on the professional's student loan not to exceed \$6,000 in the first year, \$9,000 in the second year, \$12,000 in the third year, \$15,000 in the fourth year and \$18,000 in the fifth year.

This bill also provides that the primary care access credit is available for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, but before January 1, 2019. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Maine Revenue Services to submit an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters beginning on January 15, 2016 indicating the number of eligible primary care professionals certified and decertified each year by the Department of Health and Human Services and the total annual loss of revenue attributable to the primary care access credit.

This bill uses one-time tobacco settlement funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to support health services for the elderly, including nursing home funding, transitional assistance with Medicare Part D plan selection and an increase for adult day services reimbursement. This bill also uses one-time tobacco settlement funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine for the primary care access tax credit.