

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
127<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

May 2016

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# STATE OF MAINE

127<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

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## 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 Second Regular Session of the 127<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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

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 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 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature is July 29, 2016. 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 State and Local Government*

**LD 6**

**Resolve, To Implement Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee To Strengthen the Ethics Practices and Procedures for Executive Branch Employees**

**Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM ONTP	H-52 H-87 KRUGER C

This resolve was reported out of committee in the prior session and then carried over on the Special Appropriations Table.

This resolve implements the recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee stemming from two reports of the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability: "Public Utilities Commission" and "Healthy Maine Partnerships' FY13 Contracts and Funding." The resolve directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to take certain steps to strengthen the ethics standards and practices for executive branch employees by developing a consolidated code based in part on recommendations contained in a December 2009 report to the Legislature from the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices entitled "Report on Ethics Laws for Executive Branch Employees." This resolve also requires the department to implement procedures for employees to seek guidance on ethics and to report potential ethics violations. The committee is also authorized to recommend to the Legislative Council a similar code of ethics and conduct for use by the Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-52)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It adds an appropriations and allocations section to the resolve.

**House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-87)**

This amendment reduces from five to one the number of new positions authorized in the committee amendment and reduces the costs appropriated accordingly. This amendment also amends the reporting language to allow for the possibility that there may be implementation work going on beyond December 1, 2015.

**LD 166**

**An Act To Allow Counties To Better Provide Rescue Services**

**Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEAVERS R DUTREMBLE D	OTP-AM	H-513

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

This bill allows York County Government to provide rescue services pursuant to the law governing counties' provision of ambulance services.

**Committee Amendment "B" (H-513)**

This amendment replaces the substance of the bill, which applies only to York County. It changes the title and removes language in current law that provides that a county may provide rescue services through the sheriff's department and instead provides that each county may provide rescue services to the entire county, omitting municipalities that ask to be excluded, or by municipal-county contracts to municipalities that enter into contracts as long as county tax revenues are not used to support the services. It also makes minor nonsubstantive technical