

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2015

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH 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 First Regular Session of the 127th 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 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 First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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 137 An Act To Designate the Friendship Sloop as the Official State Maritime Symbol **Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KRUGER CUSHING	ONTP OTP	

This bill makes the Friendship sloop, a style of gaff-rigged sloop that originated as a working boat in Friendship, the official state maritime symbol.

LD 165 An Act Regarding the Funding of Volunteer Fire Departments **Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THERIAULT CYRWAY	ONTP OTP	

This bill repeals statutory language that specifies how a municipality may appropriate amounts of \$1,000 or less to its incorporated volunteer fire department.

LD 166 An Act To Allow York County To Better Provide Rescue and Ambulance Services **CARRIED OVER**

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

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

Committee Amendment "A" (H-124)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and 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 deputies and instead provides that each county may provide rescue services.

This bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government and carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 167 An Act To Prohibit a Municipality from Holding a Referendum To Legalize the Recreational Use of Marijuana **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL J COLLINS	ONTP	

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

This bill prohibits a municipality from including a referendum question to legalize the recreational use of marijuana on a ballot or in a warrant or considering it at a town meeting.

LD 182 An Act To Eliminate Term Limits for Legislators

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill eliminates term limits for Legislators.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-140)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It replaces the bill and instead increases the amount of time that a State Senator and State Representative may serve from four consecutive terms, as in current law, to six consecutive terms or 12 consecutive years, whichever is less in duration.

LD 224 An Act To Limit the Information Required To Be Printed on Municipal Referenda Ballots

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill amends the laws governing municipal referenda elections to specify that only the question to the voters is required to be printed on the ballot and that the printing of the full text of the proposal and any financial information is optional.

LD 244 An Act To Require the Use of Preapproved Subcontractors for Publicly Funded Construction Projects

**Died Between
Houses**

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

This bill requires the use of preapproved subcontractors for certain components of work, covering 16 different trades, included in bids awarded to general contractors for public improvement construction projects subject to competitive bidding.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-395)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee and requires the use of preapproved subcontractors for certain components of work included in bids awarded to general contractors for the construction, major alteration or repair of school buildings over \$250,000. It also increases the threshold proposed in the bill for the use of preapproved subcontractors from \$100,000 to \$250,000 for capital improvement contracts subject to competitive bidding that included the use of subcontractors in its bid. It also removes the list of components of capital improvement projects in the bill and instead makes reference to a list of components to be maintained by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services. The amendment also adds an