

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

August 2015

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. THOMAS B. SAVIELLO, CHAIR  
SEN. ERIC L. BRAKEY  
SEN. CATHERINE BREEN

REP. JOAN W. WELSH, CHAIR  
REP. ROBERT S. DUCHESNE  
REP. JOHN L. MARTIN  
REP. DENISE PATRICIA HARLOW  
REP. RALPH L. TUCKER  
REP. RICHARD H. CAMPBELL  
REP. ANDREW RUSSELL BUCKLAND  
REP. JEFFERY P. HANLEY  
REP. DUSTIN MICHAEL WHITE  
REP. BENJAMIN M. CHIPMAN

**STAFF:**

DANIEL TARTAKOFF, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

# STATE OF MAINE

127<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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 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.

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN HOUSES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagreed; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>action incomplete when session ended; legislation died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment</i>
<i>FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>failed to receive final majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote</i>
<i>HELD BY GOVERNOR</i> .....	<i>Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session</i>
<i>LEAVE TO WITHDRAW</i> .....	<i>sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>indefinitely postponed; legislation died</i>
<i>ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X</i> ....	<i>ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of enacted private &amp; special law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of enacted public law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>chapter # of finally passed resolve</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> 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 Environment and Natural Resources***

**LD 153      An Act To Amend Setback Requirements and Standards Related to      ONTP**  
**Species Migration under the Laws Regulating Development near Vernal**  
**Pools**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules regarding significant vernal pool habitats to define a fixed radial area of regulation around a vernal pool depression and allow for an alternative directional corridor area of regulation. Use of an alternative directional corridor area would have to be requested by the applicant, who must demonstrate to the Department of Environmental Protection that the use of an alternative directional corridor area would provide habitat protection value equal to or greater than would the fixed radial area of regulation. Department of Environmental Protection rules must specify the regulatory process and standards for obtaining a permit in an alternative directional corridor area.

**LD 190      An Act To Add Certain Capital Goods to the Product Stewardship      PUBLIC 67**  
**Exclusions**

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

This bill exempts specialized manufacturing equipment, specialized processing equipment and their components from the laws governing product stewardship.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 67 exempts specialized manufacturing equipment, specialized processing equipment and their components from the laws governing product stewardship.

**LD 241      Resolve, Regarding Metallic Mineral Mining Rules of the Department of      INDEF PP**  
**Environmental Protection**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J SAVIELLO		

This resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to resubmit for legislative review Rule Chapter 200: Metallic Mineral Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining, a major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection previously provisionally adopted and submitted to the 126th Legislature for review. During the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, the department submitted its provisionally adopted mining rule for legislative review, but the Legislature did not enact into law legislation authorizing final adoption of the rule. This resolve directs that the Legislature review the rule in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, but stipulates that the rule may not be finally adopted by the department unless legislation submitted to the 127th Legislature authorizing final adoption becomes law.

***Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources***

This bill was not referred to a committee.

**LD 307      An Act To Amend the Shoreland Zoning Laws To Exempt Certain Walkways and Trails from Setback Requirements**

**PUBLIC 11**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUTREMBLE FECTEAU	OTP-AM	S-6

This bill exempts the construction of a walkway or trail from certain water and wetland setback requirements if the walkway or trail will be adjacent to a segment of a river located within a downtown revitalization project and the walkway or trail meets other specified requirements.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-6)**

This amendment changes the headnote to indicate that the exemption from setback requirements proposed in the bill is available only for walkways and trails over rivers within a downtown revitalization project. The amendment also extends the exemption to privately owned walkways or trails.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 11 exempts the construction of a walkway or trail from certain water and wetland setback requirements if the walkway or trail will be adjacent to a segment of a river located within a downtown revitalization project and the walkway or trail meets other specified requirements.

**LD 313      An Act To Create a Sustainable Solution to the Handling, Management and Disposal of Solid Waste in the State**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R SAVIELLO		

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to implement recommendations from the Department of Environmental Protection relating to solid waste handling, management and disposal issues identified in a letter dated March 24, 2014 to the department from the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Specifically, this bill would enact measures designed to:

1. Provide incentives for and encourage the increased use of methods of source reduction, reuse, recycling and composting as a means of achieving the state-mandated recycling goal of 50 percent under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 2132, together with a method for accurately measuring future achievements toward that goal;
2. Achieve economic stabilization of the three existing waste-to-energy facilities in the State by January 1, 2016, with options for funding that stabilization;
3. Develop a plan to minimize the need for future expansion of landfill capacity in Maine, including state-owned landfills;
4. Identify additional strategies to increase the beneficial use of waste materials, particularly where there are potential economic benefits to be derived from these materials; and
5. Develop other components of an overall comprehensive implementation plan necessary and appropriate to better