

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 ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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.

| | |
|--|--|
| <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 & 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&S XXX</i> | <i>chapter # of enacted private & 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 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 Environment and Natural Resources

advance the goals of the State's solid waste management hierarchy under Title 38, section 2101.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 325 An Act To Strengthen Recycling of Single-use Plastic Shopping Bags

Accepted Minority (ONTP) Report

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

This bill requires a retailer to assess a 5¢ surcharge for a plastic bag designed for one-time use distributed to a customer at the point of retail sale. A retailer retains 2¢ from the surcharge for administrative costs. The revenues from the plastic bag surcharge are credited to the Plastics Recycling Fund administered by the Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of promoting recycling efforts related to plastics. A retailer may provide recyclable paper bags to bag products at the point of sale. A retailer must provide reusable bags for purchase by a customer.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-83)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill and changes the title. It prohibits a retailer from using plastic bags to bag products at the point of retail sale or otherwise make plastic bags available to customers, with exceptions for certain types of plastic bags. This prohibition is effective September 1, 2020. A retailer may provide recyclable paper bags to bag products at the point of sale and must provide reusable bags for purchase by a customer. The amendment also makes changes to existing law regarding retailer collection and recycling of used plastic bags to ensure consistency with the implementation of the plastic bag prohibition.

LD 352 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 119: Motor Vehicle Fuel Volatility Limit, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

RESOLVE 10 EMERGENCY

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

This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 119: Motor Vehicle Fuel Volatility Limit, a major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 10 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 119: Motor Vehicle Fuel Volatility Limit, a major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Resolve 2015, chapter 10 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 16, 2015.