

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

May 2016

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND 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 Second 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 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 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 386 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Farmland Restoration ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C HICKMAN C	ONTP	

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, will be used to fund farmland restoration.

LD 387 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Agricultural Enterprises and Encourage the Use of Local Farm Products in Public Schools ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C HICKMAN C	ONTP	

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$6,000,000, will be used to provide funding for assistance to the Agricultural Marketing Loan Fund for agricultural enterprises and to the Local Produce Fund to encourage the use of local farm products in public schools.

LD 426 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Address Sea Level Rise ONTP

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

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, will be used to provide funds to support improvements to sea level prediction models by providing more detailed mapping of coastal zones and monitoring sea level changes in order to mitigate the impact of and help prepare for rising sea levels.

LD 438 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Maine's Rail Infrastructure and Expand Passenger Rail Service ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N ROTUNDO M	ONTP	

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be used to repair and reconstruct state-owned railroad lines, improve infrastructure on a railway crossing in the Town of Yarmouth and improve the

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

railroad line between the cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the City of Portland.

See LD 1694.

LD 453 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade and Replace Infrastructure of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation Died On Adjournment

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R POULIOT M	OTP-AM ONTP	

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$6,100,000, will be used to replace existing infrastructure systems of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation that carry the emergency alert system.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-537)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, reduces the bond issue amount to \$1,000,000 from \$6,100,000. This amendment also provides for a transfer to the Secretary of State if the number or length of the referendum questions to be submitted to the voters at the general election in November 2016 requires the Secretary of State to produce and distribute more than one ballot to accommodate those questions.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 518 An Act To Clarify and Protect Certain Public Service Retirement Benefits ONTP

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

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

This bill changes the contractual commitment to maintain state-protected benefits regarding cost-of-living adjustments for retired state employees and teachers.

LD 628 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation Infrastructure ONTP

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

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$125,000,000, will be used to make improvements to state and municipal roads, highways and bridges, state-owned rail lines, public transportation, pedestrian trails and marine infrastructure.

See LD 1694.