MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

127ᴛʜ LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

August 2015

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH 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 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.

bank from which the check is issued or $400 if there are insufficient funds to pay the check.

This bill increases the civil penalty for issuing a check that is dishonored to twice the face amount of the check or $500, whichever is less.

This bill also imposes a service charge of $30 or 5% of the face amount of the check, whichever is greater, and removes the interest penalty. The penalty for issuing a second dishonored check to the same payee is increased to the lesser of three times the face value of the check and $1,000 if the person does not have an account at the bank from which the check is issued or $750 if there are insufficient funds to pay the check.

LD 599	**An Act To Direct the Department of Public Safety To Establish a Public Safety Answering Point for the Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation at Indian Township**	**Died Between Houses**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DANA	REF TO EUT / ONTP ONTP	

This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communications Bureau to identify and establish a public safety answering point within the Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation at Indian Township to serve persons located within Indian Township.

LD 600	**An Act To Prohibit a Person Convicted of a Crime of Domestic Violence from Possessing a Firearm for a Period of 5 Years and To Better Align Maine Law with Federal Law Regarding Persons Prohibited from Possessing Firearms**	**PUBLIC 287**

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
PICKETT BURNS	OTP-AM ONTP	H-389

This bill amends Maine law prohibiting the possession of firearms to better conform the law to federal law. This bill adds the following persons to the list of persons who may not possess firearms:

1. Fugitives from justice;

2. Persons who are unlawful users of or are addicted to any controlled substance and as a result are prohibited from possession of a firearm under 18 United States Code, Section 922(g)(3);

3. Aliens who are illegally or unlawfully in the United States or who were admitted under nonimmigrant visas and who are prohibited from possession of a firearm under 18 United States Code, Section 922(g)(5);

4. Persons who have been discharged from the United States Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions;

5. Persons who have renounced United States citizenship; and

6. Persons who have been convicted in any court of a crime of domestic violence designated as a Class D or Class E crime or an equivalent crime of that jurisdiction.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-389)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, modifies the provision in the bill regarding a