

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 LABOR, COMMERCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

LD 249 An Act To Enable Seniors To Remain in Their Homes

**Died On
Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO T	OTP-AM	S-10

This bill was reported out of committee in the prior session and then carried over on the Special Appropriations Table.

This bill establishes the Home Weatherization and Repair for Seniors Program in the Department of Economic and Community Development to assist low-income seniors in remaining in their homes. It also establishes the Home Weatherization and Repair for Seniors Fund and appropriates money to the fund. The department is required to disburse money from the fund to a statewide network that provides weatherization and home repair services, including but not limited to repairs to meet the standards of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to replace substandard fixtures and hardware and to reduce ongoing maintenance and heating costs, to low-income residents of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-10)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

LD 429 An Act To Modify the Disbursement from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BURNS D ALLEY R	ONTP	

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

This bill changes the apportionment of the Maine Economic Improvement Fund. A minimum of 3% of this fund is currently apportioned among six institutions: the University of Maine at Augusta, the University of Maine at Farmington, the University of Maine at Fort Kent, the University of Maine at Machias, the University of Maine at Presque Isle and the Maine Maritime Academy, to support applied research and development. This bill instead requires that a minimum of 2% of the fund be disbursed to the University of Maine at Machias to support applied marine research and development at that university's marine field station. A minimum of 1% of the fund is apportioned among the remaining five institutions.

LD 674 An Act To Support Maine's Working Families

**Died On
Adjournment**

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

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

This bill proposes to explore proactive strategies to raise wages in this State, improve working conditions, increase predictability of scheduling and improve the overall economic security of working people in this State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-589)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. This amendment is presented as a competing measure to Initiated Bill 4, LD 1661, "An Act To Raise the Minimum Wage." This amendment, which is the minority report, replaces the bill and makes changes to the minimum wage law, increasing the minimum wage to \$8.50 per hour starting January 1, 2017, \$9.00 per hour starting January 1, 2018, \$9.50 per hour starting January 1, 2019 and \$10.00 per hour starting January 1, 2020. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 690 An Act To Ensure the Safety of Home Birth

PUBLIC 502

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VOLK A HERBIG E	OTP-AM ONTP	S-484 S-514 HAMPER J

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

The purpose of this bill is to ensure the safety of women who choose to give birth at home or in freestanding birthing centers attended by certified professional midwives. This bill proposes to license and regulate certified professional midwives practicing in Maine. Among other things, the bill will establish:

1. Criteria for licensure and oversight;
2. A regulatory body including certified professional midwives, clients, certified nurse midwives and physicians to oversee complaint and disciplinary processes;
3. Procedures to allow other health care providers to consult with, collaborate with or accept transfer of care from a licensed certified professional midwife;
4. Procedures to allow for protected peer review for licensed certified professional midwives; and
5. Requirements for data collection and submission for quality improvement purposes.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-484)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with changes to the makeup of the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers and a new licensing scheme, under the authority of that board, for two categories of individuals practicing midwifery in the State. Among other things, the amendment establishes:

1. Criteria for licensure and oversight of midwives;
2. Procedures to allow other health care providers to consult with, collaborate with or accept transfer of care from a licensed midwife;