

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
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

August 2015

STAFF:

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. RODNEY L. WHITEMORE, CHAIR
SEN. MICHAEL J. WILLETTE
SEN. NATHAN L. LIBBY

REP. ROLAND DANNY MARTIN, CHAIR
REP. MARK E. BRYANT
REP. CHRISTOPHER W. BABBIDGE
REP. JEFFREY EVANGELOS
REP. DONNA R. DOORE
REP. PINNY BEEBE-CENTER
REP. BETH P. TURNER
REP. RANDALL ADAM GREENWOOD
REP. RICHARD A. PICKETT
REP. WILLIAM R. TUELL

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.

<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 State and Local Government

the term is not defined to indicate that it is limited to nonpartisan legislative staff when describing the duties of the nonpartisan staff offices and the executive director. Public Law 2015, chapter 102 corrects that.

8. It removes outdated and duplicative language regarding the updating of the Maine Revised Statutes, which is already required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 92.
9. It removes a reference to a committee that no longer exists and standardizes the reference to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs.
10. It specifies that the directors and staff of the Law and Legislative Reference Library, the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability and the Office of Legislative Information Technology are subject to the same restrictions regarding testifying before legislative committees as the members of the other nonpartisan staff offices of the Legislature.
11. It removes outdated language regarding the printing of the Laws of the State of Maine, also referred to as the session laws, but retains and clarifies the language regarding a revision of the entire Maine Revised Statutes.
12. It removes an outdated provision regarding reporting by the Maine Human Rights Commission.
13. It changes the wording of the statutes regarding the receipt by the executive director of reports from boards and commissions to clarify that the executive director merely forwards the report to the appropriate joint standing committee, instead of referring it, since "refer" has a specific meaning in the Legislature.
14. It specifies that the term of a person appointed to a three-year term as the executive director, the State Law Librarian or a director of a nonpartisan staff office of the Legislature before October 1, 2015 is not affected by the bill's removal of that specified term.
15. It makes other nonsubstantive changes to grammar and format.

LD 724 An Act To Authorize Municipal Fire Districts To Impose Service Charges ONTP

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

This bill authorizes municipalities to create by ordinance municipal fire districts that may charge service charges for fire protection. The bill also authorizes municipalities to collect service charge revenue, as an alternative to property tax revenue, for the purpose of financing multimunicipal fire districts.

LD 732 Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services To Sell or Lease the Interests of the State in Certain Real Property Located in Bangor, Orono and Thomaston RESOLVE 28

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WILLETTE MARTIN R	OTP-AM	S-186 S-214 WILLETTE

This resolve gives the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services authority to sell or lease the property identified as the District Courthouse in Augusta, the Daschlager House in Augusta, the McLean House in Augusta, the Smith-Merrill House in Augusta, the Elizabeth Levinson Center in Bangor and the Ship Street Houses in

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Thomaston.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-186)

This amendment changes the title of the resolve. The resolve provides the authority to the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to sell or lease properties in Augusta, Bangor and Thomaston. The amendment removes four properties in Augusta from the list. The properties removed are the property identified as the District Courthouse, the Daschlager House, the McLean House and the Smith-Merrill House.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-214)

This amendment gives the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services authority to sell or lease the property formerly known as the Maine State Police Barracks in the Town of Orono.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 28 gives the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services authority to sell or lease the property identified as the Elizabeth Levinson Center in Bangor, the Ship Street Houses in Thomaston and the Maine State Police Barracks in the Town of Orono.

LD 741 An Act To Provide Expanded Powers to the Executive Director of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

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

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

This bill proposes to provide expanded powers to the Executive Director of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority.

LD 780 Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Convey the Parcel of Land in Kittery Known as John Paul Jones Memorial Park to the Town of Kittery RESOLVE 24

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILL RYKERSON	OTP-AM	S-80

This resolve authorizes the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to gift the state property known as John Paul Jones Memorial Park to the Town of Kittery. It restricts the use of the property to public noncommercial governmental purposes, and the property reverts to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry if used otherwise. The resolve also gives the department right of first refusal in perpetuity to take the property back if the Town of Kittery proposes to transfer the property to a third party not affiliated with the town.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-80)

This amendment specifies that the property to be conveyed pursuant to the resolve must continue to be used and managed for public noncommercial governmental purposes as a public park, replacing language that stated the property is to be used for public noncommercial governmental purposes only.