

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 LABOR, COMMERCE,
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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.

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one of the boards, but may practice under the supervision of either an osteopathic physician or an allopathic physician. Chapter 242 allows both boards to jointly adopt rules governing the licensure of physician assistants.

LD 834 An Act To Clarify the Use of "M.D." To Represent Achievement of a Graduate Degree by an Individual Not Licensed To Practice Medicine in Maine **PUBLIC 270**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HYMANSON GRATWICK	OTP-AM ONTP	H-350

The bill enables an individual who has earned the graduate degree Doctor of Medicine to use the letters "Dr." or "M.D." prefixed or appended to that individual's name, so long as the individual is not representing to the public that the individual is licensed and authorized to practice medicine in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-350)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It allows a person who has received the doctor's degree from a reputable college or university to append the letters "M.D." to that person's name, if that person is not engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery, as long as that person's license to practice has never been revoked by the Board of Licensure in Medicine.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 270 allows a person who has received the degree "Doctor of Medicine" from a reputable college or university but who is not engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery or the treatment of a disease or human ailment, to append the letters "M.D." to that person's name, as long as that person's license to practice has never been revoked by the Board of Licensure in Medicine.

LD 843 An Act To Raise the Minimum Wage and Index It to the National Average Wage **ONTP**

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

This bill raises the minimum wage incrementally until it is \$12.00 per hour starting October 1, 2019, and it requires the minimum wage to be adjusted based on the increase in the national average wage index, starting October 1, 2020. It also reduces the tip credit incrementally until it is eliminated starting October 1, 2019.

LD 847 An Act To Permit Hair Braiding without a Barbering or Cosmetology License **PUBLIC 132
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL ROTUNDO	OTP-AM	S-82

This bill exempts hair braiding from licensure under the laws governing barbering and cosmetology.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-82)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill. It also strikes provisions in the bill

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that exclude the practice of hair braiding from the practices of barbering, limited barbering and cosmetology. It retains the provision that allows a person who provides only hair braiding services to be exempt from barbering and cosmetology licensure requirements.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 132 exempts hair braiding from licensure under the laws governing barbering and cosmetology.

Public Law 2015, chapter 132 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 2, 2015.

LD 855 An Act To Allow Grocery Stores under 10,000 Square Feet To Be Open on Sundays Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GILLWAY THIBODEAU	OTP ONTP	

This bill exempts grocery stores that have no more than 10,000 square feet of interior customer selling space, excluding back room storage, office and processing space, from the law prohibiting a place of business from being open on Sundays.

LD 856 An Act To Amend the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program To Allow for Participation in Early College and Career and Technical Education Programs PUBLIC 257

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY WARD	OTP-AM	S-224

This bill expands the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program to include participants who are under 18 years of age if they are full-time secondary students at a public secondary school and enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region and:

1. Do not have a marketable postsecondary degree;
2. Have income less than 200% of the federal poverty level; and
3. Are applying for education or training for a job in an approved industry.

The bill also directs the Commissioner of Labor to transfer funds from the Competitive Skills Scholarship Fund to cover postsecondary education expenses for secondary students in a dual enrollment career and technical education program established pursuant to statute, also known as a "Bridge Year Program."

The provisions in the bill are repealed on January 1, 2021.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-224)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Like the bill, the amendment expands the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program to include participants who are under 18 years of age if they are full-time students at a public secondary school and enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region. The amendment requires these participants to meet the other