

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 ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

August 2015

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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.

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources by December 1, 2015. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-74)

This amendment makes a change to a statutory headnote and removes language that makes the statutory provision proposed in the bill apply notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary. It also removes the requirement in the bill that directs the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to convene a stakeholder group to conduct a study regarding motor fuel and fuel additives.

LD 884

An Act To Amend Laws Concerning Water Quality Standards

ONTP

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

This bill makes the following changes to the laws concerning water quality:

1. It allows the Department of Environmental Protection to issue more than three discharge licenses to allow discharges to Class AA waters for the purpose of assisting in the restoration of Atlantic salmon and returning the waters to a state that is closer to historically natural chemical quality;
2. It allows the Department of Environmental Protection to issue more than three discharge licenses to allow discharges to Class A waters for the purpose of assisting in the restoration of Atlantic salmon and returning the waters to a state that is closer to historically natural chemical quality;
3. It recognizes an alternate name for Beaverdam Brook and Clifford Brook;
4. It recognizes an alternate name for Crooked Stream and that the name of Township 31 Middle Division has been changed to Day Block Township;
5. It clarifies the location of the West Branch of the Narraguagus River;
6. It recognizes an alternate name for Mile Brook;
7. It recognizes that the names of Squa Pan Stream and Squa Pan Lake have been changed to Scopan Stream and Scopan Lake;
8. It clarifies the description of the Class AA waters within the St. John River basin and specifies where the headwaters start;
9. In the law concerning minor drainage areas, which is organized by county, it lists the Town of Winterport under the proper heading of Waldo County;
10. It recognizes that town lines have been redrawn in Casco Bay and that the Class SA area encompassing Jewell Island and other islands, which previously was divided between Portland, Cumberland and Harpswell, is now divided between the towns of Chebeague Island, Harpswell, Long Island and Portland;
11. In the laws concerning classification of waters as estuarine and marine, it corrects a conflict between descriptions of two stream segments and clarifies that the marine classification extends to the head of tide; and
12. It clarifies a description of a line at the mouth of The Basin in Phippsburg.