

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 APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

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.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 927 An Act To Remove the Age Penalty for State Retirees Working at Institutions That Are Closing CARRIED OVER

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

This bill removes the reduction of 6% of the benefits of a member of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System for each year under the age of 65 of the member if the member: 1) has 25 years of creditable service; 2) has not reached the age of 61 years, six months and one day; and 3) is or was employed at a state facility over 100 miles from the nearest facility in the same department and that facility has closed or is scheduled to close during the member's employment.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 931 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development for the University of Maine System CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND KORNFELD		

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be used to provide funds for research and development initiatives for the University of Maine System.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 994 as amended by H-504.

LD 995 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Participating Local Districts in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FOLEY COLLINS		

This bill restricts the jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System in making final and determining administrative decisions regarding claims of certain participating local district employees. This bill also makes changes to the laws governing participation and claims for prior service credit for certain participating local district employees.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 992.

LD 996 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Food Processing Infrastructure in Rural Areas of the State CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN EDGECOMB P		

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, will be used for food processing infrastructure in rural areas of the State.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 994 as amended by H-504.

LD 998 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Collect Data on and To Monitor Ocean Acidification CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PARRY LANGLEY		

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$3,000,000, will be used to collect data, monitor waterways and perform tests related to the known increasing ocean acidity along the Maine coast and its impact on natural wildlife and commercially important species in Maine waters, such as lobsters and clams.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 994 as amended by H-504.

LD 1018 An Act To Make Certain Necessary Appropriations and Allocations CARRIED OVER

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to make appropriations and allocations necessary for the proper operation of State Government.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 127th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 994 as amended by H-504.

LD 1019 An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2015, June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017 PUBLIC 267 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROTUNDO HAMPER	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-415 S-287 HAMPER S-288 HAMPER

This bill is the Governor's proposed biennial budget for the 2016-2017 biennium. This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

PART A makes appropriations and allocations of funds for the 2016-2017 biennium.