

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
127<sup>TH</sup> 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

127<sup>TH</sup> 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 Second Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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*

3. Joint rulemaking between the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers and the Board of Licensure in Medicine for certain categories of rules pertaining to midwives until January 1, 2021;
4. Authority for midwives to order and interpret medical laboratory tests, obtain necessary medical equipment and supplies and administer certain classes of drugs;
5. Limitations on one category of licensed midwife from providing birth services when the person giving birth has certain medical conditions; and
6. Guidelines for data collection by midwives in the State and submission to the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers for quality improvement purposes.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

### **Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-514)**

This amendment removes from the committee amendment provisions requiring transfers from the General Fund and the appropriations and allocations section.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2015, chapter 502 makes changes to the makeup of the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers and establishes a new licensing scheme, under the authority of that board, for two categories of individuals practicing midwifery in the State. Among other things, it provides:

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;
3. Joint rulemaking between the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers and the Board of Licensure in Medicine for certain categories of rules pertaining to midwives until January 1, 2021;
4. Authority for midwives to order and interpret medical laboratory tests, obtain necessary medical equipment and supplies and administer certain classes of drugs;
5. Limitations on one category of licensed midwife from providing birth services when the person giving birth has certain medical conditions; and
6. Guidelines for data collection by midwives in the State and submission to the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers for quality improvement purposes.

### **LD 1062 An Act To Support Housing for Homeless Veterans**

**Died On  
Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDEN J MCCORMICK E	OTP-AM	H-312

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

This bill establishes the Homeless Veterans Housing Fund within the Maine State Housing Authority to provide

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

housing for homeless veterans and, for fiscal year 2015-16, directs the Treasurer of State to credit \$1,000,000 derived from the real estate transfer tax to the Homeless Veterans Housing Fund to support, with a three-to-one match by outside sources, the construction by the Volunteers of America of housing for homeless veterans on the grounds of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in the City of Augusta.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-312)**

This amendment adds the following provisions to the bill.

1. It adds a provision to ensure that the housing provided by the Homeless Veterans Housing Fund will be constructed for homeless veterans and their immediate families.
2. It adds a provision to require that Volunteers of America enter into a service agreement with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs prior to construction that describes the resources and services both entities will provide to homeless veterans receiving housing funded by the fund.
3. It allows Volunteers of America to request funds from the fund, as long as the organization enters into a service agreement with each homeless veteran receiving housing funded by the fund that identifies the resources and services that will be provided to veterans by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and by Volunteers of America.
4. It authorizes the Director of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to conduct quarterly quality control site inspections of the housing constructed for homeless veterans on the grounds of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in the Town of Chelsea.
5. It adds an annual reporting requirement from Volunteers of America to the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans affairs.
6. It includes a provision requiring that Volunteers of America use utility services of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

This amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**LD 1137      An Act To Promote Workforce Development**

**PUBLIC 402  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R	OTP-AM	S-360

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.

This bill proposes to improve reemployment opportunities for workers who are between jobs in several ways, including:

1. Adjusting orientation and training programs for unemployed workers to prepare those workers to take new jobs in the event their previous jobs may no longer exist due to the transformative nature of economic downturns;
2. Strengthening up-front assessment of worker skills, educational deficits and overall employability for purposes of shaping reemployment plans;