

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 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

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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.

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 FINAL 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 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

LD 1286

An Act To Ensure the Use of Environmentally Responsible Insulation Materials in Taxpayer-funded Building Projects

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill requires the use of insulation with a low global-warming potential for all state-funded new building construction and substantial renovations of existing buildings. This bill also specifies that school administrative units, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, University of Maine System, Maine Community College System, the Maine State Housing Authority and the Efficiency Maine Trust must use or require to be used low global-warming potential insulation in any state-funded new building construction or substantial renovation, or any building constructed for the purpose of leasing, or the substantial renovation of a leased building.

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

LD 1298

An Act Relating to the Creation of Public-private Facilities and Infrastructure

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill authorizes and establishes a framework for governmental entities to enter into agreements with private entities and persons to develop or operate qualifying projects, including, but not limited to, ferries, mass transit facilities, vehicle parking facilities, port facilities, power generation facilities, fuel supply facilities, oil or gas pipelines, water supply facilities, public works facilities, waste treatment facilities, hospitals, schools, medical facilities, nursing care facilities and recreational facilities.

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

LD 1325

An Act To Ensure a Public Process When Discontinuing or Abandoning a Public Road

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill changes the laws governing discontinued and abandoned roads.

Under current law, a presumption of abandonment exists if a municipality fails to keep a way passable for the use of motor vehicles at the expense of the municipality for a period of 30 or more years. This bill eliminates that presumption for ways that have not met that statutory requirement by January 1, 2020. Instead, for all other public ways, the bill provides a new discontinuance process, which will be the only means for a municipality to actively terminate its interests in a public way. The new discontinuance process specifies five steps a municipality must follow to discontinue a road: the notification of proposed discontinuance to the abutting property owners; a meeting of municipal officers to discuss the proposed discontinuance and the filing of an order of discontinuance specifying whether or not there will be a public easement and any public use restrictions or municipal maintenance and liability responsibilities for the public easement; a public hearing on the discontinuance; approval of the order of