

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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MAUREEN S. DAWSON, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635

STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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 1336 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's
Community Colleges**

CARRIED OVER

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$24,000,000, will be used to upgrade and renovate classrooms, laboratories, equipment and facilities at Maine's seven community colleges in order to strengthen educational programming, increase energy efficiency and expand capacity to serve more students.

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 1341 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Maine's
Housing Stock and Reduce Heating Costs and Oil Consumption**

CARRIED OVER

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$30,000,000, will be used to provide \$23,000,000 in funds to leverage private funds on at least a two-to-one basis to modernize the State's market rate housing stock through improvements in weatherization and energy efficiency of building envelopes and heating equipment and to provide \$7,000,000 in funds to rehabilitate and modernize the State's low-income housing stock with up to four housing units through improvements in weatherization and energy efficiency of building envelopes and heating equipment.

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 1414 An Act Regarding the Disposition of Certain Funds Received by the
Attorney General Pursuant to a Court Order or Settlement**

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

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

This bill provides that when, pursuant to a court order or settlement, the Attorney General receives money on behalf of the State that is specifically designated for antitrust enforcement or for enforcement of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act, the Attorney General may make a request to the State Budget Officer for reimbursement for costs incurred by the Attorney General in connection with that court order or settlement. These costs are strictly limited to expenditures for expert witness fees, copying of documents and transcripts. Current law provides that when, pursuant to a court order or settlement, the Attorney General receives money that is specifically designated for antitrust enforcement or for enforcement of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act, the Attorney General is authorized to expend these funds for expert witness fees, copying of documents and transcripts and any other purpose in accordance with the court order.