

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 1415 An Act To Authorize Two General Fund Bond Issues To Improve Highways, Bridges and Multimodal Facilities

PUBLIC 305

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER MCLEAN	OTP-AM	S-339

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$85,000,000 in 2015 and \$90,000,000 in 2016, will be used for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities and equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$121,500,000 in 2015 and \$126,500,000 in 2016 in federal and other funds.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-339)

This amendment strikes Part B of the bill, which provides for a \$90,000,000 bond referendum in November 2016.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 305 provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$85,000,000 to be used for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities and equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$121,500,000 in federal and other funds.

LD 1445 Resolve, Reauthorizing the Balance of the 2009 Bond Issue for an Offshore Wind Energy Demonstration Project

**RESOLVE 42
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER ROTUNDO	OTP-AM ONTP	S-291

This resolve extends the authority to issue bonds for the University of Maine's offshore wind energy demonstration site previously authorized in June 2010. These funds are required to complete construction of the offshore wind energy demonstration site already under construction at the university.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-291)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2015, chapter 42 extends the authority to issue bonds for the University of Maine's offshore wind energy demonstration site previously authorized in June 2010.

Resolve 2015, chapter 42 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2015.

LD 1447 An Act To Authorize Increased Borrowing by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority To Support the Maine Correctional Center in South Windham

CARRIED OVER

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

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

This bill amends current law regarding the authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue securities to increase the ceiling on the securities outstanding for correctional facilities to \$165,000,000 and specifies that the securities must be used for the Maine Correctional Center in South Windham.

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

LD 1450 An Act To Enact an Interim Budget

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)

SIROCKI

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill does the following.

PART A makes appropriations and allocations through July 31, 2015.

PART B reduces the percentage of tax revenue transferred to the Local Government Fund for the purpose of state-municipal revenue sharing from 5% to 2%.

PART C establishes the state contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 for the month of July 2015.

PART D extends by one month the current sales and use tax rates to July 31, 2015.

PART E continues authorization for each individual tax expenditure provided by statute.

PART F gives the Department of Health and Human Services the authority to adopt emergency rules to implement any provisions of this legislation over which the department has specific authority that has not been addressed by some other Part without the necessity of demonstrating that immediate adoption is necessary to avoid a threat to public health, safety or welfare.

PART G authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer available balances of appropriations between the MaineCare General Fund accounts for the month of July 2015.

PART H amends the Fiscal Stability Program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to delay the additional appropriation until the 2018-2019 biennium.

PART I continues limited-period positions set to expire during June 2015 through July 31, 2015.

PART J provides that the purpose of this legislation is to provide for the obligations of the State necessary for the operation of state departments through July 31, 2015. This Part also provides for the repeal of this legislation on the date the 2016-2017 biennial budget becomes law.

This bill was not referred to a committee.