

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH 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

127TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND 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 Second 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 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 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

through the project. The authority must submit an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters regarding the projects that have received financial support and the administration of the program. The committee may request an independent evaluation of the program by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

The bill takes effect only after the authority receives funds for the program in the amount of at least \$50,000,000.

LD 1501 An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Disqualification for Unemployment Benefits during Stoppages of Work Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STETKIS J CUSHING A	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill removes the provision of law affecting the disqualification for unemployment benefits of employees at an establishment at which there is a labor dispute and at which there would have been a work stoppage but for the employer's maintaining substantially normal operations through the use of other personnel.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-533)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. This amendment changes the bill by broadening the disqualification from unemployment benefits in current law for unemployment that is due to a stoppage of work caused by a labor dispute by eliminating the requirement that there is a stoppage of work. Instead, under the amendment, unemployment that is due to a labor dispute is sufficient grounds for a denial of benefits. The amendment also updates the language of the exceptions in current law to this disqualification to reflect the elimination of the stoppage of work requirement.

LD 1514 An Act To Conform Maine Law to the Requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIROCKI H BURNS D	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-593 S-524 BURNS D

This bill amends the professional licensing laws governing dental hygiene therapists in several ways.

1. It specifies that an applicant for a dental hygiene therapy license must possess a Bachelor of Science degree or higher from a dental hygiene therapy program that is accredited by either the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation or a successor organization or that meets the requirements for a dental hygiene therapy education program adopted by the Board of Dental Examiners.
2. It eliminates requirements that dental hygiene therapy education programs be a minimum of four semesters in duration, be consistent with a specified model curriculum and be consistent with programs in other states.
3. It eliminates the requirement that an applicant for a dental hygiene therapy license hold an associate degree in dental hygiene before entering a dental therapy education program.
4. It provides for licensure by endorsement of a dental hygiene therapist who graduates from a dental hygiene therapy education program, is licensed to practice as a dental hygiene therapist in another state and engages in active clinical practice for at least three years prior to applying for a license in this State.

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

5. It removes the requirement that a dental hygiene therapist practice under the direct supervision of a dentist.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-593)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It changes the terms "dental hygiene therapist" and "dental hygiene therapy" to "dental therapist" and "dental therapy", respectively, throughout the Maine Revised Statutes. It reorganizes the dental therapist education and examination requirements and corrects a cross-reference in the provisional dental therapy license section of the bill. It eliminates the provision of the bill allowing licensure of dental therapists by endorsement. It requires an applicant for a dental therapy license to have previously engaged in not only 2,000 hours of supervised clinical practice but also at least two years of supervised clinical practice. It clarifies that a dental therapist must practice under the general supervision of a dentist licensed in the State and limits to five the number of dental therapists that a single dentist may supervise.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-594)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It changes the terms "dental hygiene therapist" and "dental hygiene therapy" to "dental therapist" and "dental therapy", respectively, throughout the Maine Revised Statutes. It reorganizes the dental therapist education and examination requirements and corrects a cross-reference in the provisional dental therapy license section of the bill. It eliminates the provision of the bill allowing licensure of dental therapists by endorsement. It requires dental therapists to practice under the direct supervision of a dentist licensed in the State and limits to five the number of dental therapists that a single dentist may supervise.

This amendment was not adopted.

House Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (H-654)

This amendment, which is identical in substance to the majority report of the committee, corrects conflicts created by the enactment of Public Law 2015, chapter 429, which repealed and replaced the laws governing dental professionals.

This amendment was not adopted.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-524)

This amendment incorporates the substantive provisions of Committee Amendment "A" with corrected citations to reflect enactment of Public Law 2015, chapter 429, which repealed and replaced the laws governing dental professionals. This amendment makes the following additional changes to the substance of Committee Amendment "A".

1. It requires an applicant for authority to practice as a dental therapist to possess a master's degree in a dental therapy education program that is accredited by either the Board of Dental Practice or the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation or a successor organization or that meets the requirements for a dental therapy education program adopted by the Board of Dental Practice.

2. It increases the number of hours of supervised clinical practice that an applicant for dental therapist authority must complete from 2,000 to 2,500 but removes the requirement that the applicant have engaged in at least two years of supervised clinical practice.

LD 1538 An Act To Amend the Quorum Requirements That Apply to the Citizen Trade Policy Commission

PUBLIC 400

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