

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 APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

May 2016

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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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

procure and offer long-term disability insurance to the retirement system's members and nonmembers who participate in the retirement system's defined contribution plan.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 392 directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to study how it would procure and offer long-term disability insurance and to report the results of its study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters, which is authorized to report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

LD 1486 Resolve, To Reauthorize the Issuance of Certain Bonds for Land Conservation Projects ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M CUSHING A	ONTP	

This resolve extends for two years the period for issuance of bonds authorized by the voters in November 2010 for the Land for Maine's Future Board.

See LD 1454.

LD 1512 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Equipment for Career and Technical Education Centers Died On Adjournment

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEAU R LANGLEY B	OTP-AM ONTP	

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be used to provide funds to purchase equipment for and make capital improvements to career and technical education centers for high school students.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-676)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment reduces the bond issue amount to \$10,000,000 from \$25,000,000. This amendment also provides for funds to be transferred to the Office of the Secretary of State if the number or length of the referendum questions to be submitted to the voters at the general election in November 2016 requires the Secretary of State to produce and distribute more than one ballot to accommodate those questions.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1515 An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System as They Relate to Wartime Veterans ONTP

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

This bill updates the definition of "federally recognized period of conflict" to include service during operations in Lebanon, August 21, 1982 to February 26, 1984; operations in Grenada, October 25, 1983 to November 2, 1983; the

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Persian Gulf War, August 2, 1990 to April 6, 1991; and operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, October 7, 2001 to the present for purposes of allowing members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to purchase military time to add those years to their years of creditable service for purposes of calculating their retirement benefits. The cost of purchasing military time depends in part on whether a member served during a federally recognized period of conflict.

**LD 1537 An Act To Combat Drug Addiction through Enforcement, Prevention,
Treatment and Recovery**

**PUBLIC 378
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THIBODEAU M EVES M	OTP-AM OTP-AM	S-344 S-346 HAMPER J

This bill does the following.

Part A provides ongoing funding for 10 investigative agents in the Department of Public Safety, Maine Drug Enforcement Agency.

Part B directs the Department of the Attorney General to administer grants to local law enforcement agencies and county jails located in geographically diverse communities throughout the State to fund projects designed solely to facilitate pathways to community-based treatment, recovery and support services.

Part C directs the Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants to a substance abuse treatment entity to develop and operate a 10-bed social detoxification center located in the greater Bangor area.

Part D provides ongoing funding for annual grants to the Maine Association of Substance Abuse Programs for the establishment and expansion of peer support recovery centers and the coordination and provision of substance abuse prevention and education in schools and communities.

Part E provides funding to increase substance abuse residential treatment and substance abuse outpatient services for the uninsured.

Part F transfers \$725,000 in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$1,775,000 in fiscal year 2016-17 from the funds received pursuant to the court order in *State of Maine v. McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Financial Services, LLC*, Kennebec County Superior Court Docket No. BCD-CV-14-49, to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-344)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, makes the following changes to the bill.

In Part A, adds the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety to the entities to which periodic reports must be made by the Commissioner of Public Safety; adds funding provided by financial order 03451F16 to the unencumbered balances that may not be transferred; adds funding provided by financial order 03451F16 to the unencumbered balances that may not lapse and restricts the nonlapsing year to fiscal year 2015-16 only; eliminates the appropriation for 10 investigative agents in fiscal year 2015-16 and reduces the appropriation in fiscal year 2016-17 from \$1,600,000 to \$1,230,000; and adds a section to transfer \$1,230,000 from the Gambling Control Board administrative expenses, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund on or before the close of fiscal year 2016-17.

In Part B, adds a requirement of consultation with the Maine Sheriffs' Association and the Maine Chiefs of Police Association; and requires enhanced reporting.