

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

LD 1579 An Act Regarding the Maine Clean Election Fund

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM ONTP	H-661 S-510 GRATWICK G

This bill specifies that the State Controller is directed to transfer \$2,500,000 from the General Fund to the Maine Clean Election Fund on or before June 30, 2016 instead of on or before January 1, 2017.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-661)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the date by which the State Controller is directed to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Maine Clean Election Fund from on or before June 30, 2016 to on or before August 1, 2016 and changes the amount of that transfer from \$2,500,000 to \$500,000.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-510)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and the emergency clause and changes the date of the 2nd transfer from on or before August 1, 2016 to on or before September 1, 2016.

LD 1583 An Act To Provide for Tax Conformity and Funding Methods

**PUBLIC 388
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		S-354

This bill was reported ought to pass by a majority of the committee pursuant to joint order, S.P. 630.

Part A of this bill:

1. Decouples the Maine individual and corporate income taxes from the federal bonus depreciation deductions for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015. In addition, it provides a Maine capital investment credit for taxable years beginning in 2015 with respect to depreciable property placed in service in Maine. The credit is equal to 9% of the amount of the net increase in depreciation attributable to the depreciation deduction claimed by the taxpayer under the Code, Section 168(k) with respect to property placed in service in the State during the taxable year for taxable corporations; for individuals the credit is 8% of such amount for tax years beginning in 2015;
2. Decouples Maine's individual and corporate income tax from the Code, Section 179 expensing deductions for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016. It enacts addition and subtraction modifications to reverse any increase allowed at the federal level for the first year the property is placed in service, and then to allow depreciation deductions for the remainder of the asset's life;
3. Decouples Maine's individual income tax from the teacher expense deduction under the Code, Section 62(a)(2) (D) by requiring an addition modification in the amount of the federal deduction;
4. Disallows for Maine itemized deduction purposes the federal deduction for mortgage insurance premiums treated as qualified residence interest; and
5. For taxable years beginning after 2017, decouples the Maine earned income tax credit from the increased federal 45% earned income tax credit rate for taxpayers with three or more qualifying children and from the higher