

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 STATE AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

May 2016

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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 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 State and Local Government

LD 1609 An Act To Designate the Maine Lobster as the State Crustacean

PUBLIC 426

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

This bill designates the Maine lobster as the official state crustacean.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 426 designates the Maine lobster as the official state crustacean.

LD 1624 An Act To Eliminate Inactive Boards and Commissions

PUBLIC 491

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-598

This bill eliminates boards and commissions that have reported inactivity during 2014 and 2015. The boards and commissions eliminated for inactivity are:

1. The Aquaculture Advisory Council;
2. The ATV Trail Advisory Council;
3. The Citizens' Code of Conduct Working Group;
4. The Judicial Compensation Commission;
5. The Legislative Youth Advisory Council;
6. The Maine Agricultural Water Management Board;
7. The Maine Biomedical Research Board;
8. The Maine Quality Forum Advisory Council; and
9. The Tobacco Prevention and Control Advisory Council.

This bill is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12006, subsection 2. As authorized by the law, and based on the Secretary of State's submission of recommendations regarding which boards and commissions to eliminate, the bill eliminates boards and commissions that have been inactive during the preceding 24 months.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-598)

This amendment removes from the bill the Aquaculture Advisory Council, the Judicial Compensation Commission, the Maine Agricultural Water Management Board, the Maine Biomedical Research Board, the Maine Quality Forum Advisory Council and the Tobacco Prevention and Control Advisory Council. This leaves the ATV Trail Advisory Council, the Citizens' Code of Conduct Working Group and the Legislative Youth Advisory Council to be eliminated

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

for inactivity, as proposed in the bill.

This amendment also deappropriates savings related to the elimination of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 491 eliminates the following boards and commissions due to inactivity during 2014 and 2015: the ATV Trail Advisory Council, the Citizens' Code of Conduct Working Group and the Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

LD 1633 An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of Cary Plantation ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHERMAN R	ONTP	

This bill provides for the deorganization of Cary Plantation in Aroostook County, subject to approval at local referendum.

LD 1635 An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of Oxbow Plantation P & S 17

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN J	OTP-AM	H-572

This bill provides for the deorganization of Oxbow Plantation in Aroostook County, subject to approval at local referendum and execution of a withdrawal agreement from School Administrative District No. 32, also known as Regional School Unit No. 32.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-572)

This amendment corrects the name in the bill of the deorganized township to Oxbow North Township.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2015, chapter 17 provides for the deorganization of Oxbow Plantation in Aroostook County, subject to approval at local referendum and execution of a withdrawal agreement from School Administrative District No. 32, also known as Regional School Unit No. 32. Upon successful deorganization, the former Oxbow Plantation will be identified as Oxbow North Township.

LD 1637 An Act To Assist Maine Citizens Residing along Public Easements Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HILLIARD G SAVIELLO T	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill requires a municipality that discontinues a town way but that retains a public easement on that town way to continue to maintain that public easement, at the expense of the municipality, so that it is reasonably passable by motor vehicles if there are legal residences on the property abutting the town way at the time of discontinuance. If a municipality discontinues a town way and specifically discontinues the public easement on that town way, the