

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
127<sup>TH</sup> 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

127<sup>TH</sup> 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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 127<sup>th</sup> 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**

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

Part H transfers \$979,732 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 Office of the Treasurer to be used solely for consumer and antitrust activities identified in the court decree and approved by the Attorney General with the consent of the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

Part I provides one-time funding to the Maine State Grant Program for scholarships.

Public Law 2015, chapter 481 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 16, 2016.

**LD 1630      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Construction of a New Fish Hatchery      ONTP**

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

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$28,000,000, will be used to fund the design and construction of a new fish hatchery in the State.

**LD 1640      An Act To Provide Emergency Repair Funding for the Restoration of the Official State Vessel, the Schooner Bowdoin      Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN K FREDETTE K	ONTP OTP-AM	

The bill provides funds for Maine Maritime Academy in order to make repairs and do restorative work on the schooner Bowdoin, the official state vessel used by Maine Maritime Academy for its Vessel Operations and Technology Program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-456)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1645      An Act To Address Employee Recruitment and Retention Issues at State Mental Health Institutions      PUBLIC 505 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R DOORE D	OTP-AM ONTP	S-507

This bill increases wages for select personnel at the state mental health institutions.

*Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-507)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes the bill and provides that the wages for select personnel at the state mental health institutions must be increased beginning with the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2016. This amendment provides for the funding of the General Fund costs of the wage increases through transfers from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Salary Plan program, General Fund account up to \$944,379 in fiscal year 2016-17.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 505 provides that wages for select personnel at the state mental health institutions must be increased beginning with the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2016 and provides for the funding of the General Fund costs of the wage increases through transfers from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Salary Plan program, General Fund account up to \$944,379 in fiscal year 2016-17.

Public Law 2015, chapter 505 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 29, 2016.

**LD 1653      An Act Implementing Pay Increases for Certain Law Enforcement Employees To Aid in Recruitment and Retention      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE K MASON G	ONTP	

This bill provides for the upward adjustment of salary schedules in fiscal year 2015-16 by 12% to 18% for certain law enforcement positions in the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources beginning with the pay period closest to May 1, 2016. The bill provides for a similar salary schedule adjustment for certain law enforcement confidential employees in those departments and allows the Governor to make similar salary schedule adjustments to unclassified law enforcement positions in those departments that are subject to the Governor's adjustment or approval. The bill authorizes use of the Salary Plan program to fund the adjustments and provides that certain law enforcement positions supported from other funds must be funded whenever possible from those other sources.

See LD 1523.

**LD 1656      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Loan Repayment Programs for Graduates in the Fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND J	ONTP	

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$10,000,000, will be used to attract and retain college and university graduates who work in Maine in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics by helping reduce their postsecondary loan debt.