

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

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.