

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

August 2017

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE
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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 First Regular Session of the 128th 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 FINAL 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 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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

This amendment strikes the emergency preamble and emergency clause and provides funding in fiscal year 2017-18 instead of fiscal year 2016-17.

LD 99 An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Veto Sustained
Detectives in the Office of Investigations within the Department of the
Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C MIRAMANT D	OTP-AM ONTP	H-249

This bill allows detectives in the office of investigations within the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles to elect to participate in the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. Under that plan, a person may retire at 55 years of age with 10 years of creditable service, or may retire before 55 years of age with 25 years of creditable service and at a reduced benefit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-249)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that a motor vehicle detective in the employment of the office of investigations within the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles on July 1, 2018, must make the election to participate in the 1998 Special Plan no later than December 1, 2018. The amendment also makes technical changes and corrects cross-references in the current retirement provisions applicable to detectives in the employment of the office of investigations within the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

LD 100 An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Died Between
Detectives in the Office of the Attorney General Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C MAKER J	OTP-AM ONTP	H-174

This bill allows detectives in the Office of the Attorney General to elect to participate in the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. Under that plan, a person may retire at 55 years of age with 10 years of creditable service, or may retire before 55 years of age with 25 years of creditable service and at a reduced benefit.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-174)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment clarifies that a detective in the employment of the Office of the Attorney General on July 1, 2018, must make the election to participate in the 1998 Special Plan no later than December 1, 2018. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

LD 139 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's CARRIED OVER
Community Colleges

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

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$15,000,000, will be used to strengthen and expand business and industry training, upgrade and renovate instructional technology facilities and laboratories at Maine's seven community colleges in order to strengthen educational programming and workforce development and install energy efficiency upgrades across the system.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 143 An Act To Provide Funding for Upgrades of Learning Spaces and Other CARRIED OVER
Projects Funded by the School Revolving Renovation Fund**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARNSWORTH R MAKER J		

This bill provides funds to be used to upgrade learning spaces in school buildings and for other necessary repairs approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-452)

This amendment was reported out ought to pass as amended by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. This amendment replaces the bill with a bond issue. The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000 in each of the two fiscal years, will be used to provide funds to the School Revolving Renovation Fund for the purpose of providing funds to public schools to upgrade learning spaces in school buildings and make other necessary repairs.

The bill was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.

**LD 176 An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Disability Retirement Benefits CARRIED OVER
Administered by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FOLEY R KATZ R		

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

The bill proposes to implement changes to the disability retirement program administered by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. The changes would be based on the recommendations of a task force, which was convened by the system to review the current disability retirement program and propose changes to improve member experience while maintaining fiscal responsibility. The task force, consisting of representatives of employers and employees and staff from the system, is expected to provide its recommendations before the end of the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 128th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1138.