

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

October 2018

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contain summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Special, Second Regular and Second Special Sessions 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128th Legislature are: Monday, February 5, 2018; Wednesday, August 1, 2018; and Thursday, December 13, 2018, respectively. 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 47 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Equipment
for Career and Technical Education Centers Died On
Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEAU R WOODSOME D		

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the Second Regular Session by joint order H.P. 1138. This bill was again carried over, still in committee, from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$40,000,000, will be used to provide funds to make capital improvements to and purchase equipment for career and technical education centers for high school students.

**LD 139 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's
Community Colleges Died On
Adjournment**

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

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the Second Regular Session by joint order H.P. 1138. This bill was again carried over, still in committee, from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

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. Similar provisions are contained in LD 836 as enacted.

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

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

This bill was reported out of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee during the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. The bill was committed to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and then carried over from the Second Regular Session by joint order H.P. 1138. This bill was again carried over, still in committee, from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill provides funds to be used to upgrade learning spaces in school buildings and for other necessary repairs

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-452)

This amendment was reported out 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.

**LD 176 An Act To Authorize the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To PUBLIC 378
Procure and Offer Long-term Disability Insurance**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FOLEY R KATZ R	OTP-AM	H-681

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature by joint order H.P. 1138.

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

This 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.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-681)

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to procure and offer long-term disability insurance to the retirement system's members and employees who choose not to become members but participate in the defined contribution plan pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, section 18801, subsection 1. The decision about whether to offer coverage is made by the employer. Premiums would not be paid for by the retirement system, but would be paid by employers, by employees electing the coverage or by a combination of both. The amendment also directs the retirement system to report twice to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters on the use of the authority granted by this bill, once in 2019 and once in 2020.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 378 authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to procure and offer long-term disability insurance to the retirement system's members and employees who choose not to become members but participate in the defined contribution plan pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, section 18801, subsection 1. The decision about whether to offer coverage is made by the employer. Premiums would not be paid for by the retirement system, but would be paid by employers, by employees electing the coverage or by a combination of both. It also directs the retirement system to report twice to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters on the use of the authority granted by this law, once in 2019 and once in 2020.