

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

August 2017

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> 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 128<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 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 128<sup>th</sup> 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 State and Local Government***

**LD 71      Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State To Request That the United States Secretary of Transportation Place Maine in the Atlantic Standard Time Zone      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILLINGHAM K BRAKEY E	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Secretary of State to request that the United States Secretary of Transportation place Maine in the Atlantic Standard Time zone. This resolve is subject to approval by the voters at referendum.

**LD 93      An Act To Reduce Fuel Costs to State and Local Government      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MIRAMANT D COOPER J	ONTP	

This bill amends the law regarding state government purchases of cars and light duty trucks with respect to fuel efficiency requirements. The bill removes the current exception from the fuel efficiency requirement for vehicles purchased for law enforcement and other special use purposes. The bill also establishes fuel efficiency requirements, at the same level as the state requirements, for county and municipal government purchases of cars and light duty trucks.

**LD 105      An Act To Create a Centralized Authority To Combat Opiate Addiction in Maine      CARRIED OVER**

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

This bill establishes an office within the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate efforts in the State to combat addiction to opiates.

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

**LD 150      An Act Regarding the Funding of Volunteer Fire Departments      PUBLIC 33**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THERIAULT T MAKER J	OTP-AM	H-46

This bill repeals statutory language that authorizes a municipality to make appropriations to an incorporated volunteer fire department without itemizing the purposes for which the appropriation will be spent when the amount appropriated is \$1,000 or less.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-46)**

This amendment clarifies that municipal appropriations, in any amount, to volunteer fire departments must be

## *Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government*

itemized.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 33 removes the authority for municipalities to appropriate amounts of \$1,000 or less to volunteer fire departments without itemizing the purpose of the appropriation and clarifies that municipal appropriations, in any amount, to volunteer fire departments must be itemized.

### **LD 152      An Act To Strengthen Intragovernment Communication**

**Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN D JACKSON T	OTP-AM ONTP	H-180

This bill requires the commissioner or director of a state agency, which includes executive branch departments and quasi-independent agencies, to appear before a joint standing committee of the Legislature or a study commission or work group formed by legislative action and to participate in a hearing or work session of that committee, commission or work group. The bill requires that the request to appear must be made in writing and provide the date and time of the hearing or work session.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-180)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment adds a provision to the bill to require the commissioner or director of a state agency, or the commissioner's or director's designee, to respond in a cooperative and timely manner when contacted by a member of the Legislature regarding a legislative or constituent matter.

### **LD 203      An Act To Opt Out of Federal Daylight Saving Time and To Ask the United States Secretary of Transportation To Place the State in the Atlantic Time Zone**

**Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAILEY D	OTP-AM OTP-AM	H-76

This bill creates an exemption to federal provisions regarding the observation of so-called Eastern Daylight Saving Time in the State and requires the Secretary of State to request that the United States Secretary of Transportation place the State in the Atlantic Standard Time Zone.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-76)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It does the following.

1. It adds a provision that requires the Secretary of State to monitor legislative activity in Massachusetts and New Hampshire regarding placement of those states in the Atlantic Standard Time Zone.
2. It provides that if the Atlantic Standard Time Zone is adopted by Massachusetts and New Hampshire, the Secretary of State must submit to the voters of the State a referendum question asking voters to choose if the State should seek placement in the Atlantic Standard Time Zone and opt out of observing daylight saving time.
3. It provides that if the referendum question is approved, the Secretary of State is required to request that the United States Secretary of Transportation place the State in the Atlantic Standard Time Zone.