

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE,  
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

October 2018

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\*Committee member for a portion of the session

# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> 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 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128<sup>th</sup> 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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development*

**LD 285      An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine Coworking Development Fund**

**Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEAU R CYRWAY S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-114

This bill was reported out of committee in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature and then carried over to the Second Regular Session on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order S.P. 601. This bill was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, from the Second Regular Session to the next special session by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill provides one-time funds to the Department of Economic and Community Development to support collaborative workspace businesses.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-114)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It incorporates a fiscal note.

**LD 367      An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee To Develop a Long-range Strategic Plan for Economic Improvement in the State**

**Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-493

This bill was reported out of committee in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature and then carried over to the Second Regular Session on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order S.P. 601. This bill was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, from the Second Regular Session to the next special session by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill provides additional clarity, requirements and resources for the Maine Economic Growth Council's efforts to fulfill its current statutory mandate to develop, monitor and maintain a long-range strategic economic improvement plan for the State. It also includes provisions to support the State's achievement of the goals and objectives in that plan by establishing requirements for the Governor, Legislature and agencies with relevant programs and activities to consider the long-range strategic economic improvement plan and provide information to the Maine Economic Growth Council at the request of the council. This bill would increase the annual General Fund appropriation to the Maine Economic Growth Council from its current \$55,000 to \$175,000 and would provide a one-time additional appropriation of \$150,000 for development of the initial plan in order to meet the timelines required in this bill.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-493)**

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It specifies that membership of the Maine Economic Growth Council must include members with expertise in both large and small business.
2. It adds educational and science and technology factors to the list of factors that must be addressed by the long-range strategic economic improvement plan.

***Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development***

3. It adds a requirement that the Maine Economic Growth Council must consider the impact of tax policy, energy costs and regulation on competitiveness, the demographic composition of the State's workforce and the optimization of the return on investment in the State when developing the plan.
4. It adds a requirement that the plan include goals and objectives that support economic opportunity for all people in the State and that the plan include actions to accomplish plan benchmarks based upon the best practices in this State, other states and other countries.
5. It authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters to submit to the Legislature any bill it considers necessary to improve the required elements of the strategic plan or the process through which it is developed, maintained or communicated.
6. It directs the Maine Economic Growth Council to develop by January 15, 2018 proposed review criteria suitable for use by the joint standing committees of the Legislature when the committees are considering legislative proposals that may affect the plan developed by the council. The Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature based on the report.

**LD 503      An Act To Continue the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Program**

**Died On  
Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ R HYMANSON P	OTP-AM ONTP	S-31

This bill was reported out of committee in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature and then carried over to the Second Regular Session on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order S.P. 601. This bill was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, from the Second Regular Session to the Second Special Session by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to make a one-time General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 2018-19 to the Finance Authority of Maine for the establishment of an endowment to continue the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Program under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 12103-A.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-31)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, and provides for a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$16,000,000 to establish an endowment to continue the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Program under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 12103-A.

The funding requested in this bill was partially provided in the First Regular Session in Part LLLLLLL of the Biennial Budget, Public Law 2017, chapter 284 (LD 390), which requires the State Controller to make one payment of \$400,000 by June 30, 2018 and a second payment of \$400,000 by June 30, 2019 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Finance Authority of Maine to be deposited in the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Fund. To offset the funds deposited in the Doctor's For Maine's Future Scholarship Fund, Part LLLLLLL requires that \$320,000 from the Board of Licensure in Medicine's Other Special Revenue Funds account and \$80,000 from the Board of Osteopathic Licensure's Other Special Revenue Funds account be transferred to the General Fund unappropriated surplus by June 30, 2018 and that a second set of identical transfers be made by June 30, 2019.