

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**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 APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

August 2017

**STAFF:**

MAUREEN S. DAWSON, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW  
5 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1635  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/ofpr>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. JAMES M. HAMPER, CHAIR  
SEN. ROGER J. KATZ  
SEN. CATHERINE E. BREEN

REP. DREW GATTINE, CHAIR  
REP. JOHN L. MARTIN  
REP. AARON M. FREY  
REP. ERIK C. JORGENSEN  
REP. BRIAN L. HUBBELL  
REP. DENISE A. TEPLER  
REP. TOM J. WINSOR  
REP. HEATHER W. SIROCKI  
REP. JEFFREY L. TIMBERLAKE  
REP. H. STEDMAN SEAVEY

# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST 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 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

This bill provides that a veteran who is a member of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and who has been awarded a disability pension under 38 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 3.3 (2003) for a service-connected disability is qualified for disability retirement benefits under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 423, article 3. The provisions of the bill apply to all applications for disability retirement benefits filed on or after January 1, 2018.

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

**LD 522 An Act Regarding Final Enactment of the State Budget**

**Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOOD S	ONTP OTP	

This bill requires at least three calendar days to have elapsed between the day the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs reports out a biennial or supplemental budget and when that budget is finally enacted by the Legislature.

**LD 546 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Biological Research in Maine**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T GIDEON S		

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, will be used to provide funds for the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory through the Maine Technology Institute to expand infrastructure and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity.

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

**LD 590 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Maine's Rail Infrastructure**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T MARTIN J		

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used for investments in railroad infrastructure to expand passenger rail service, with a priority for railroad track corridors that could support passenger and freight intermodal operations and enhance the movement of agricultural products.

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