

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

October 2018

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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>

# 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-751)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. This amendment establishes 103 positions in the office for family independence in the Department of Health and Human Services to handle increased workload due to the expansion of eligibility for MaineCare. The amendment also provides one-time funding for technology updates and testing for the department's Maine Integrated Health Management Solution website.

**Senate Amendment "C" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-502)**

This amendment does the following:

1. Establishes the MaineCare Expansion Fund within the Department of Health and Human Services to provide the funds estimated to be necessary for expanded coverage under the MaineCare program required by Initiated Bill 2017, chapter 1, "An Act To Enhance Access to Affordable Health Care";
2. Limits the use of the fund to funding needed for the implementation and continuation of expanded access to health care as required by Initiated Bill 2017, chapter 1;
3. Requires that funds in the fund lapse to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund if not expended by June 30, 2019;
4. Directs the State Controller to transfer \$31,159,210 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the fund no later than 10 days following the effective date of this legislation; and
5. Provides that the Governor, on or before June 30, 2019 and upon the written request of the Commissioner of Health and Human Services in consultation with the State Budget Officer, may transfer up to \$23,540,000 from the unallocated balance of the Fund for a Healthy Maine to the fund for the amount of medical costs of the MaineCare program that, as a result of expansion of the MaineCare program, will within the 15 days following the request exceed the sum of the total amount available in the Department of Health and Human Services, Medical Care - Payments to Providers program plus the total amount transferred from the General Fund.

<b>LD 897</b>	<b>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Efficient Biomass Thermal and Power Projects in Maine</b>	<b>Died On Adjournment</b>
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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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 \$25,000,000, will be used to construct steam piping from existing stand-alone biomass generators to adjacent manufacturing facilities, construct biomass combined heat and power generation boilers for sawmill manufacturing facilities and convert fossil fuel boilers in public buildings and commercial facilities to biomass boilers.