

# 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 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>

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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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**LD 907      An Act Requiring Investments by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System To Be Well-diversified**

**Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART H KATZ R		

This bill requires that the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System invest and reinvest retirement system funds in well-diversified asset classes that will generate the maximum return and prohibits investment in narrowly tailored asset classes.

**LD 917      Resolve, To Require a Review of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Plan**

**RESOLVE 14 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WINSOR T HAMPER J	OTP-AM	H-184

This resolve directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, within their existing resources, to jointly convene and provide necessary staffing assistance to a working group to evaluate and design retirement plan options for all state employees and teachers. The Maine Public Employees Retirement System is directed to submit its recommendations, including any necessary implementing legislation, to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2018.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-184)**

This amendment adds to the working group as a nonvoting member a person chosen from nominations submitted by the Maine Association of Retirees. The amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the resolve.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2017, chapter 14 directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, within their existing resources, to jointly convene and provide necessary staffing assistance to a working group to evaluate and design retirement plan options for all state employees and teachers. The Maine Public Employees Retirement System is directed to submit its recommendations, including any necessary implementing legislation, to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2018.

Resolve 2017, chapter 14 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 7, 2017.

**LD 924      An Act Making Certain Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE D		

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

***Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs***

This emergency bill proposes to adjust certain appropriations and allocations from the General Fund and other funds for the expenditures of State Government related to position changes and to change certain provisions of the law necessary to the proper operations of State Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

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

**LD 925      An Act Making Certain Appropriations and Allocations and Changing      CARRIED OVER**  
**Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of**  
**State Government**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE D		

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

This emergency bill proposes to make appropriations and allocations for the expenditures of State Government, General Fund and other funds and to change certain provisions of the law necessary to the proper operations of State Government.

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

**LD 929      An Act Regarding the State Retirement System      Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAUGHTRY M	OTP-AM ONTP	H-277

This bill amends the definition of "earnable compensation" for the purposes of the state retirement system. The bill provides that if, during any year, an employee receives retrospective payment for compensation earned in a prior year or years, the portion of the employee's compensation that is retrospective payment for compensation earned in a prior year or years must be deducted from earnable compensation for the year in which it is paid and must be added to earnable compensation for the prior year or years in which that compensation was earned.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-277)**

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

**LD 953      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support the      CARRIED OVER**  
**Biomass Industry**

<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 \$20,000,000, will be used to provide support for the biomass industry in this State through the establishment of a revolving loan fund for capital investment in biomass generators or similar facilities.