

# 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 LABOR, COMMERCE,  
RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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 Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development*

This bill provides ongoing funding necessary to fund 30 housing units and provide support services at those units for chronically homeless individuals including opiate-addicted homeless individuals.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-209)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, reduces the funding for the Housing First Assistance Program established in the bill from \$675,000 to \$300,000 per fiscal year.

### **Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-330)**

This amendment eliminates the General Fund appropriation of \$300,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2017-18 to a newly created Housing First Assistance Program within the Maine State Housing Authority.

This amendment provides a one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocation of \$300,000 in fiscal year 2017-18 to the Housing First Assistance Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Maine State Housing Authority by transferring \$300,000 of revenue in fiscal year 2017-18 from the real estate transfer tax that would otherwise be deposited into the Housing Opportunity for Maine Fund within the Maine State Housing Authority.

### **LD 971      An Act To Exempt Certain Employees from the Minimum Wage Laws      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAMPSON H WOODSOME D	ONTP	

This bill exempts from the minimum wage laws an employee who has not attained 18 years of age, is claimed as a dependent on the income tax return of another person or is employed by a seasonal employer.

### **LD 984      An Act To Separate the Authorities under the Licenses for Property and Casualty Insurance Adjusters and Workers' Compensation Insurance Adjusters      PUBLIC 152**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WHITTEMORE R PICCHIOTTI J	OTP-AM	S-149

This bill separates the authorities under the licenses for property and casualty insurance adjusters and workers' compensation insurance adjusters, beginning October 1, 2017.

### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-149)**

This amendment replaces the bill. It separates the authorities under the licenses for property and casualty insurance adjusters and workers' compensation insurance adjusters, beginning January 1, 2018. It removes the five-year experience requirement in the bill for property and casualty insurance adjusters to be deemed workers' compensation insurance adjusters and provides that those individuals licensed as property and casualty insurance adjusters on January 1, 2018, will be granted both property and casualty and workers' compensation authorities. This amendment also extends the exemption in current law applicable to licensure for property and casualty insurance adjusters who are employees of insurers to include workers' compensation insurance adjusters.

### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 152 separates the authorities under the licenses for property and casualty insurance adjusters and workers' compensation insurance adjusters, beginning January 1, 2018. It removes the five-year

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

experience requirement in the bill for property and casualty insurance adjusters to be deemed workers' compensation insurance adjusters and provides that those individuals licensed as property and casualty insurance adjusters on January 1, 2018, will be granted both property and casualty and workers' compensation authorities. It also extends the exemption in current law applicable to licensure for property and casualty insurance adjusters who are employees of insurers to include workers' compensation insurance adjusters.

**LD 985 An Act To Promote Medical Care for Visiting Athletic Teams**

**PUBLIC 119**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BREEN C FECTEAU R	OTP-AM	S-71

This bill allows a physician who holds a license to practice allopathic or osteopathic medicine in another state who accompanies an athletic team from that other state to provide medical services to members and supporting personnel of the team without a license from this State but restricts the person from providing medical services in a health care facility in the State.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-71)**

This amendment clarifies that the bill applies to a physician accompanying an athletic team while the team is traveling to or from or is participating in a sporting event in this State.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 119 allows a physician who holds a license to practice allopathic or osteopathic medicine in another state who accompanies an athletic team from that other state to provide medical services to members and supporting personnel of the team without a license from this State. This authority applies while the team is traveling to or from or is participating in a sporting event in this State and as long as those medical services are not provided within a health care facility.

**LD 991 An Act To Establish a Minimum Wage for Minors**

**Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CYRWAY S FOLEY R	OTP-AM OTP-AM	

This bill establishes a minimum hourly wage for minors that is 75% of the general minimum hourly wage.

**Committee Amendment "B" (S-249)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It changes the amount in the bill that an employer may pay a person who is under 18 years of age to a minimum hourly wage that is 80% of the minimum hourly wage instead of 75% as proposed in the bill.

This amendment was not adopted.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-248)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It strikes the bill and makes a number of changes relating to the employment of minors, including the following.