

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
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

August 2017

STAFF:

LUCIA NIXON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>

MEMBERS:

SEN. PAUL T. DAVIS, SR., CHAIR
SEN. LISA KEIM
SEN. SUSAN A. DESCHAMBAULT

REP. ROLAND DANNY MARTIN, CHAIR
REP. MARK E. BRYANT
REP. PINNY BEEBE-CENTER
REP. GEORGE W. HOGAN
REP. JOHN E. MADIGAN, JR.
REP. JOHN ALDEN SPEAR
REP. RICHARD A. PICKETT
REP. MATTHEW A. HARRINGTON
REP. LESTER S. ORDWAY
REP. CHAD WAYNE GRIGNON

STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 128th 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 128th 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 State and Local Government

House of Representatives may serve from four terms to two terms.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-86)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment removes the provision in the resolution that changes apportionment to a 12-year cycle and leaves it at 10 years. The amendment also removes those provisions of the resolution that change references to biennial elections in the Constitution of Maine, as biennial elections will continue.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1008 An Act To Establish the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Populations Died On Adjournment

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TALBOT ROSS R	OTP-AM ONTP	H-254

This bill creates the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Populations to promote, carry out and coordinate programs designed to improve opportunities for racial and ethnic populations.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-254)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment changes the membership of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Populations, decreasing the total membership from 17 as proposed in the bill to 15 and including Legislators in the membership. The amendment also expands the research duties of the commission to incorporate the study of income levels of and opportunities available to historically disadvantaged racial and ethnic populations in the State and the examination of data regarding business ownership, household assets, debts and income, housing, employment and access to inherited wealth, capital and benefits. It also directs the commission to consider policy proposals to diversify business ownership to include historically disadvantaged racial and ethnic populations in the State and to bridge the gaps in wealth acquisition. The amendment adds an initial report by the commission to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature focusing on the commission's research on income levels and consideration of policy proposals. The amendment also specifies a due date of January 1st for the biennial report proposed in the bill, beginning January 1, 2019. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

LD 1021 Resolve, To Establish the Study Committee To Develop a Disposition Plan for Future Surplus State Property in York County CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASTRACCIO A DESCHAMBAULT S	OTP-AM	H-67

This resolve establishes the Study Committee To Develop a Disposition Plan for Future Surplus State Property in York County to study and plan the disposition of the three district courthouses in York County to be vacated when the courts are consolidated into one building in 2021 and of associated surplus state property.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-67)

This amendment makes a technical correction to the resolve. The language "notwithstanding Joint Rule 353" is not necessary and is removed.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to the next special or regular session of the 128th

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Legislature on the Special Study Table by joint order, S.P. 602.

LD 1042 An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Road Associations

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ESPLING E	OTP-AM	

Under current law, if a road association is formed for the maintenance of a private road, private way or bridge, all owners of land benefitted by that private road, way or bridge are required to pay a share of the costs incurred for the maintenance of that private road, way or bridge. If an owner fails to pay, the owner's share of the costs may be recovered in a civil action, up to a maximum of one-percent of the owner's municipal property valuation. This bill increases the maximum amount of liability to two-percent of the owner's municipal property valuation.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-255)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment removes language in current law that limits an individual owner's share of the cost of repairs to a road that are assessed by a road association to one-percent of that owner's municipal property valuation in any calendar year. The bill increases the limit from one-percent to two-percent.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1058 An Act To Modernize Ballot Notices for City Elections

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMANN S CHIPMAN B	OTP	

This bill removes the requirement that before a city election the clerk publish a composite specimen ballot containing the names of all the nominees in a newspaper having general circulation in the city. It also removes the requirement that the clerk post multiple copies of the instruction poster and specimen ballot in the voting room outside the guardrail enclosure and instead specifies that at least one of each of these documents be posted.

LD 1068 An Act To Require That State-funded Buildings Be Constructed with Wood Products

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R DAVIS P		

This bill requires a person that engages in the construction or repair of public buildings or works to use wood products, including cross-laminated timber, for structural components to the extent that suitable wood products are feasible for use, competitively priced and permitted under state or local building codes.

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