

# 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 AGRICULTURE,  
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-506)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, provides that the requirements of the bill apply only to food products and manufacturers and distributors of food products, but not to beverages or manufacturers or distributors of beverages. It retains the provision that authorizes the department to assess a fee on manufacturers and distributors. The amendment also narrows the group of chemicals included in the reporting requirement to four chemicals belonging in the class of ortho-phthalates and any other ortho-phthalate identified and listed as a chemical of high concern by the Department of Environmental Protection after this legislation takes effect. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 1203**

**An Act To Increase Transparency in Cooperative Agreements within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry**

**Veto Sustained**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN C SAVIELLO T	OTP-AM	H-418

This bill amends the law governing cooperative agreements and arrangements entered into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the purpose of controlling diseases of plants and domestic animals and advertising or disseminating information concerning Maine food products. This bill requires the department to:

1. Provide public notice of each proposed cooperative agreement or arrangement;
2. Solicit public comments and provide responses regarding proposed cooperative agreements or arrangements;
3. Consider requests submitted in writing to decline to receive future funding from a cooperative agreement or arrangement; and
4. Report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters regarding the cooperative agreements and arrangements entered into during the previous fiscal year.

Under the bill, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters may schedule a public hearing on any cooperative agreement or arrangement about which the committee has questions.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-418)**

This amendment removes the requirements in the bill that the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry provide public notice of each cooperative agreement or arrangement, solicit public comments, provide responses to public comments and consider requests submitted in writing to decline to receive future funding from a cooperative agreement or arrangement. It also changes the requirement to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters regarding the cooperative agreements and arrangements entered into from an annual requirement to a biennial requirement. The amendment also requires the department to post on its publicly accessible website a description of each cooperative agreement or arrangement entered into during the previous fiscal year, including the expected benefits to the State, the department, the regulated community and the public.