

# 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*

**LD 1343**

### **An Act To Promote Downtown Revitalization by Creating the Locating Businesses Downtown Loan Program**

**CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>       | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHENETTE J<br>FECTEAU R | OTP-AM<br>ONTP          | S-152                     |

This bill establishes the Locating Businesses Downtown Loan Program, within the Communities for Maine's Future Program, to provide forgivable loans for businesses seeking to initially locate or to relocate in a downtown area, village area or along a main street within the State. Applications for loans under the program are evaluated by the Department of Economic and Community Development in conjunction with a loan review panel. Successful applicants must execute a loan agreement prepared by the department specifying the terms and conditions of the loan, including the length of time that a business must remain in the downtown area, village area or along a main street within the State for the loan to be forgiven.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-152)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It changes the appointing authority for one member of the Locating Businesses Downtown Loan Review Panel established by the bill. Instead of one representative from a statewide organization that advocates for economic development that preserves the quality of life in local communities being jointly appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, this panel member is appointed by the Maine Development Foundation.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to the next special or regular session of the 128th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, S.P. 601.

**LD 1348**

### **An Act To Expand the Rights of Public Employees under the Maine Labor Laws**

**Accepted Majority  
(ONTP) Report**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| SYLVESTER M       | ONTP<br>OTP-AM          |                           |

This bill allows public employees, including municipal and county employees, state and legislative employees, university, academy and community college employees and judicial employees, to strike pursuant to the official procedures of the employees' employee organization or under a process in which an affirmative vote to strike is held. The bill requires that notice be given to the public employer stating the dates upon which the strike will begin and end. The bill also provides that the employee organization or public employer may call for emergency bargaining within three days of the start of the strike.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-354)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.