

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL
AFFAIRS**

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 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 Veterans and Legal Affairs

LD 1554

Resolve, Authorizing Claire Dean Perry and the Estate of William Dean To Bring Suit against the Surety Obtained by the Department of Health and Human Services in Its Capacity as Public Conservator

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEEBE-CENTER P	OTP-AM	H-365

This resolve authorizes Claire Dean Perry and the estate of William Dean to bring suit against the surety bond that was obtained by the Department of Health and Human Services in the department's capacity as public conservator or public guardian of William Dean and that was filed with the Probate Court pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 18-A, section 5-611. This resolve constitutes a waiver of the State's defense of sovereign immunity.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-365)

This amendment clarifies that the surety for the State may not assert the defense of immunity in any proceeding authorized by the resolve and filed with the Probate Court. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

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 1560 An Act Regarding Veteran Homelessness

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART H DAVIS P	ONTP	

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

This bill proposes to address veteran homelessness in this State in a comprehensive and collaborative manner by implementing strategies recommended in the "Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Veteran Homelessness" prepared by the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services.

1. The bill would create a subcommittee of the Statewide Homeless Council, referred to in this bill as "the subcommittee," to share information among all organizations working to prevent and address veteran homelessness.

A. The subcommittee consists of the following members:

- (1) The members of the Maine Homeless Veterans Action Committee;
- (2) A representative of the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services, who is the chair;
- (3) A representative of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, who is the vice-chair;
- (4) A veteran who advocates on behalf of homeless veterans;
- (5) The justice action coordinator from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;
- (6) A representative of a community action program;