

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

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**STAFF:**

MAUREEN S. DAWSON, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW  
5 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1635  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/ofpr>

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contain summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Special, Second Regular and Second Special Sessions 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature are: Monday, February 5, 2018; Wednesday, August 1, 2018; and Thursday, December 13, 2018, respectively. 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

**LD 1815 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Multimodal Facilities, Highways and Bridges and Municipal Culverts**

**PUBLIC 467**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER J	OTP-AM	S-531

This bill was carried over from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$100,000,000, will be used for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities and equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$137,000,000 in federal and other funds.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-531)**

This amendment authorizes the issuance of \$1,000,000 in General Fund bonds for improvements to, and remediation of, the Maine Maritime Academy's waterfront pier in Castine and \$5,000,000 in General Fund bonds for a competitive grant program that matches local funding for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2017, chapter 467 provides for a bond issue totaling \$106,000,000 with \$100,000,000, to be used for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities and equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$137,000,000 in federal and other funds; and \$5,000,000 to be used for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings.

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November, 2018.

**LD 1834 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide for Student Loan Debt Relief**

**Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GROHMAN M		

This bill was carried over from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to provide funds to the Finance Authority of Maine for zero-interest student loans and loan consolidation or refinancing interest rate reductions for certain Maine residents who agree to live and work in Maine for at least five years. The bill creates the Maine Student Loan Debt Relief Program. Under the program, zero-interest loans up to \$10,000 per year for a maximum of five years are available to certain Maine residents who study at qualified in-state institutions of higher education and agree to live and work in Maine for at least five years following graduation. Loans bearing an annual interest rate of the prime rate of interest plus 2% are available to those who do not live and work in the State upon graduation. The Finance Authority of Maine may provide interest rate reduction payments to residents who use the authority's existing loan consolidation and refinancing program. This option is available to individuals who studied

***Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs***

in Maine or outside of Maine and agree to live and work in Maine for at least five years. The bill exempts from Maine income tax any benefits received under the program to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income and prohibits individuals who have received benefits under the program from receiving the Maine educational opportunity tax credit.

**LD 1867      An Act To Reestablish Certain Positions within the Department of Health and Human Services      Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHACE P	ONTP OTP	

This bill was carried over from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

This bill establishes eight positions in the Department of Health and Human Services to replace positions that were eliminated by Public Law 2017, chapter 284, Part ZZZZZZ, section 9.

**LD 1883      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Strengthen School Security      Died On Adjournment**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COREY P DIAMOND B		

This bill was carried over from the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature to the next special session of the 128th Legislature by joint order S.P. 748.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be used to strengthen school security. The bill establishes the Maine School Security Enhancement Fund to provide loans to school administrative units to enhance security in schools and provides \$19,500,000 to the fund for this purpose. The bill also creates a school safety center within the Department of Education and provides \$500,000 for this purpose.

**LD 1907      Resolve, To Continue a Review of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Plan      RESOLVE 57 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

This resolve was reported by the committee pursuant to Joint Rule 353.

This resolve directs the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, within their existing resources, to continue the working group to evaluate and design retirement plan options for all state employees and teachers. The Maine Public Employees Retirement System is directed to submit the final recommendation of the working group, including any necessary implementing legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters by December 1, 2019.

**Enacted Law Summary**