

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
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND HOUSING**

August 2019

MEMBERS:

SEN. SHENNA BELLOWS, CHAIR
SEN. MARK W. LAWRENCE
SEN. STACEY K. GUERIN

REP. MICHAEL A. SYLVESTER, CHAIR
REP. ANN E. PEOPLES
REP. DEANE RYKERSON
REP. DONNA R. DOORE*
REP. ANNE M. CARNEY
REP. SCOTT W. CUDDY
REP. RICHARD T. BRADSTREET
REP. SUSAN M.W. AUSTIN
REP. LAWRENCE E. LOCKMAN
REP. JOSHUA MORRIS
REP. MICHELLE DUNPHY*

STAFF:

DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

*Committee member for a portion of the session

STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 129th 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 129th Legislature is Thursday, September 19, 2019. 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 and Housing

This bill makes a number of changes to the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program administered by the Department of Labor, including the following.

1. It requires that the Department of Labor's outreach efforts regarding the program be tailored to focus on unemployed and underemployed workers, veterans, immigrants, recipients of benefits under the statewide food supplement program, low-skilled manufacturing workers and students enrolled in postsecondary education.
2. It directs the Department of Labor to collaborate with other entities to improve program outreach to target demographics, including, at a minimum, collaboration with the Maine Community College System.
3. It makes changes to the criteria used to determine approved education and training under the program, including consideration of employer input, changing demographics and traditional industries in the State in which innovations and new technologies are creating a demand for skilled workers.
4. It requires that a program participant be given information about the allowable uses of a family development account under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, chapter 110, subchapter 4-A.
5. It adds a requirement that a participant be offered comprehensive career planning services prior to the program's development of an individual career plan with the participant and permits the Department of Labor to partner with other entities to provide this service. It directs the department to include in this partnership, at a minimum, the Maine Community College System with respect to participants enrolled or seeking enrollment in a training or education course provided by the Maine Community College System. It also directs the Maine Community College System to assist the Department of Labor in program management and oversight for such participants.
6. It repeals the January 1, 2020, repeal provision on the eligibility for the program of a full-time student at a public secondary school enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region.

This bill also amends the laws governing the employment of minors 16 and 17 years of age, providing that such a minor may be employed in an otherwise hazardous occupation for which the minor has been trained or certified from a vocational, career and technical or cooperative education program approved by the Department of Education only if the minor has graduated from the program and has graduated from high school.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-82)

This amendment strikes a number of sections of the bill affecting the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program and does the following.

1. It retains the changes in the bill that amend the laws governing the employment of minors 16 and 17 years of age in an otherwise hazardous occupation for which the minor has been trained or certified from a vocational, career and technical or cooperative education program approved by the Department of Education to require that the minor must have graduated from high school. The amendment provides that a high school equivalency diploma or its equivalent is sufficient to meet this requirement.
2. It retains the provision in the bill that repeals the January 1, 2020, repeal provision on the eligibility for the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program of a full-time student at a public secondary school enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region.
3. It amends the eligibility criteria of the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program to modify the requirement that an individual be at least 18 years old by also including an individual who has graduated from high school.

Enacted Law Summary

Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing

Public Law 2019, chapter 66 amends the laws governing the employment of minors 16 and 17 years of age in an otherwise hazardous occupation for which the minor has been trained or certified from a vocational, career and technical or cooperative education program approved by the Department of Education to require that the minor must have graduated from high school. This law provides that a high school equivalency diploma or its equivalent is sufficient to meet this requirement.

This law repeals the January 1, 2020, repeal provision on the eligibility for the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program of a full-time student at a public secondary school enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region.

LD 140 An Act To Facilitate the Employment of Persons with Substance Use Disorder ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEAU R SANBORN L	ONTP	

This bill directs the Department of Labor to establish a process to certify employers as having met the criteria established by the department for working with employees with substance use disorders. The bill also directs the department to create a publicly accessible database of certified employers.

LD 168 Resolve, To Create a Universal Job Application System for Maine's Career Centers ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHEATS B BELLOWS S	ONTP	

This resolve directs the Department of Labor to create a universal job application system for use in the State's career centers and make universal job applications available at each of the centers. It also requires the department to work with public and private employers in the creation and maintenance of the system.

LD 201 An Act To Protect Jobs in the State by Strengthening the Advance Notice Requirement for the Relocation or Closure of a Large Business PUBLIC 118

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNPHY M BELLOWS S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-149

This bill requires a person that operates a call center in the State to provide the Commissioner of Labor 120 days' notice before relocating the call center or a part of the call center. If the employer fails to notify the Commissioner of Labor of the relocation of the call center at least 120 days before the relocation, a daily fine of \$10,000 may be assessed.

The bill requires the Commissioner of Labor to create a list of employers who have relocated a call center, or a facility or operating unit handling at least 30% of call volume within a call center, from the State to a foreign country. An employer appearing on the list is ineligible for a state grant, loan or tax benefit for 5 years and is required to pay back the unamortized value of a state grant, loan or tax benefit previously issued to the employer. The bill requires that call center work for executive branch agencies of the State be performed in the State.