

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

August 2019

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# STATE OF MAINE

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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 129<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 129<sup>th</sup> 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 State and Local Government*

This amendment was not adopted.

**LD 59 An Act To Permit Plantations To Fill Vacancies of Town Officials**

**PUBLIC 18  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DEVIN M	OTP-AM	H-8

This bill establishes a procedure for a plantation to recall an elected official due to neglect of duty or misconduct.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-8)**

This amendment strikes the bill except for the emergency preamble and clause. This amendment applies town law to plantations with respect to filling a vacancy in the office of a plantation official.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 18 applies town law to plantations with respect to filling a vacancy in a plantation office.

Public Law 2019, chapter 18 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 5, 2019.

**LD 90 An Act To Amend the Law Governing the Membership of the Town of York Planning Board and the Town of York Appeals Board**

**P & S 3  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLUME L LAWRENCE M	OTP-AM	H-36

This bill removes the requirement that at least one member of the Town of York Planning Board and the Town of York Appeals Board be a resident of the York Beach geographical area.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-36)**

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause to the bill.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 3 repeals the section of law that requires one member of the Town of York Planning Board and one member of the Town of York Appeals Board be a resident of the York Beach geographical area.

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 3 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2019.

**LD 144 An Act To Opt Out of Federal Daylight Saving Time and To Ask the United States Secretary of Transportation To Place the State in the Atlantic Time Zone**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESSLER C GUERIN S	ONTP	

*Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government*

This bill creates an exemption to federal law regarding the observation of so-called Eastern Daylight Saving Time. It requires the Secretary of State request the United States Secretary of Transportation place the State in the Atlantic Time Zone.

**LD 170      An Act To Prohibit Questions Regarding Criminal History on Certain State Employment Applications      PUBLIC 22**

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

This bill prohibits the State from including criminal history questions on employment application forms except when, due to the nature and requirements of the position, a person with a criminal history may be disqualified from eligibility. This bill applies to state employment with the legislative, executive and judicial branches of State Government and positions with quasi-independent state entities or public instrumentalities of the State. It does not apply to positions in school administrative units, municipalities, counties or other political subdivisions of the State.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 22 prohibits the State from including criminal history questions on employment application forms except when, due to the nature and requirements of the position, a person with a criminal history may be disqualified from eligibility. It applies to state employment with the legislative, executive and judicial branches of State Government and positions with quasi-independent state entities or public instrumentalities of the State. It does not apply to positions in school administrative units, municipalities, counties or other political subdivisions of the State.

**LD 179      An Act To Change the Name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day      PUBLIC 59**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B CARPENTER M	OTP ONTP	

This bill changes the Columbus Day holiday in the State to Indigenous Peoples Day.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 59 changes the Columbus Day holiday to the Indigenous Peoples Day holiday.

**LD 209      An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Prohibiting Short-term Rentals      Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STROM S CYRWAY S	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill prevents municipalities from prohibiting or restricting the use of short-term rentals except for narrowly tailored regulations to protect public health and safety.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-28)**