

# 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 INNOVATION,  
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT  
AND BUSINESS**

August 2019

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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 Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business***

**LD 349      An Act To Extend the Refundability of the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit to Students in the Behavioral Health Field      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEEBE-CENTER P VITELLI E	ONTP	

This bill provides that students receiving bachelor's degrees or associate degrees in a behavioral health field are entitled to a refundable income tax credit for certain education loans in the same manner as students receiving degrees in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

**LD 371      An Act To Create the Small Communities Tourism Fund      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HERBIG E FECTEAU R	ONTP	

This bill establishes the Small Communities Tourism Fund in the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Tourism to issue grants to small communities to promote tourism and events.

**LD 386      An Act To Establish a Comprehensive Wildlife Biology Internship Program      ONTP**

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

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to create a paid internship program in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order to provide beginning wildlife biologists with a diversity of opportunities to increase their experience and make them more versatile and more likely to pursue careers in the State.

The bill requires that the program:

1. Employ a competitive process to choose interns;
2. Offer a paid internship to each chosen participant for a period of no less than two years;
3. Include various fields of study in incremental blocks over the course of the internship; and
4. Be offered to no fewer than three interns per year.

This bill anticipates that funding for this program would come, in part, from the consolidation of seasonal and other part-time positions in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the duties of which can be performed by interns participating in the program.