

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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 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 Environment and Natural Resources

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 550

An Act To Amend the Definition of "Subdivision" in the Laws Governing Planning and Land Use Regulation for Subdivisions and a Provision Excepting the Division of a New or Existing Structure from Those Laws Beginning July 1, 2018

PUBLIC 174

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N CAMPBELL D	OTP-AM	S-97

This bill changes the date by which definitions of "subdivision" that are in municipal ordinances and that conflict with state law must comply with the definition of "subdivision" in state law. It also extends the time municipalities have to register an ordinance with a conflicting definition with the registry of deeds. The bill also removes cross-references to the site location of development laws in an exemption to municipal subdivision review and adds a cross-reference to the law governing municipal site plan review ordinances.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-97)

This amendment includes a definition for the term "municipal site plan review" as used in an exemption to municipal subdivision review requirements. It also makes the changes to the subdivision law that are included in the bill retroactive to June 30, 2018.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 174 amends the State's subdivision laws as follows.

1. It changes the date by which definitions of "subdivision" that are in municipal ordinances and that conflict with state law must comply with the definition of "subdivision" in state law.
2. It extends the time municipalities have to register an ordinance with a conflicting definition of "subdivision" with the registry of deeds.
3. It removes cross-references to the site location of development laws in an exemption to municipal subdivision review, instead requiring that projects eligible for that exemption be subject to "municipal site plan review," a term which is also defined in the enacted law.
4. It specifies that the changes to the subdivision laws that are included in the enacted law are retroactive to June 30, 2018.

LD 559

An Act To Restore Regular Mapping of Eelgrass Beds in the State

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCREIGHT J CARSON B	OTP-AM	H-48

This bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources, to establish and administer a program to regularly produce and update maps regarding the distribution of eelgrass beds in the State. Data collected and maps produced under this program must be made available on the Department of Environmental Protection's publicly accessible website. The Department of Environmental