

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.

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3. It provides that a municipal shoreland zoning ordinance must require an applicant for a permit for development within the shoreland zone to provide to the municipal permitting authority preconstruction and postconstruction photographs of the shoreline vegetation and development site.

LD 565 An Act To Establish the Maine Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLUME L BREEN C	ONTP	

This bill establishes the Maine Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission, the purpose of which is to develop and submit legislative recommendations regarding the actions to be taken by the State to address and prepare for coastal and coastal watershed hazards identified by the commission, including, but not limited to, increased storm surges, extreme precipitation and other extreme weather events, projected sea level rise and increased river flooding and storm water runoff. On or before November 1, 2022, and every four years thereafter, the commission must submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environmental and natural resources matters containing its recommendations, including any draft legislation, to address and prepare for identified coastal and coastal watershed hazards.

LD 575 An Act To Increase the Bottle Redemption Deposit and the Amount Retained by Bottle Redemption Centers ONTP

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

This bill amends the State's bottle redemption laws as follows.

1. It increases to 10¢ the deposit and refund value on refillable and nonrefillable beverage containers whose deposit and refund value is currently 5¢. This increase does not apply to wine and spirits containers.
2. It repeals the provision that authorizes the reduced handling fee for small brewers and water bottlers.
3. It increases by 3¢ per returned container the reimbursement to the dealer or local redemption center for the cost of handling beverage containers beginning January 1, 2020.

LD 579 An Act To Update Beverage Container Deposits and Redemption Values ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY S DAVIS P	ONTP	

This bill amends the State's bottle redemption laws as follows.

1. It increases to 15¢ the deposit and refund value on refillable and nonrefillable beverage containers whose deposit and refund value is currently 5¢. The bill also increases from 5¢ to 15¢ the deposit and refund value of wine and spirits containers of 50 milliliters or less, and from 15¢ to 45¢ the deposit and refund value of wine and spirits

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containers of greater than 50 milliliters.

2. It triples the amount per returned container of reimbursement to the dealer or local redemption center for the cost of handling beverage containers beginning January 1, 2020.

LD 582 An Act To Increase Vegetative Buffers in the Shoreland Zone

Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

Sponsor(s)

FAY J

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to amend the laws governing shoreland zoning to increase the vegetative buffer requirement from 75 feet to 150 feet for certain areas in the shoreland zone. The bill also proposes to remove provisions in law that grandfather certain parcels of land and that allow smaller vegetative buffers on those parcels.

LD 590 An Act To Promote Climate Resiliency Measures To Protect Beaches and Near-shore Infrastructure

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

BLUME L

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to enact measures designed to provide flexibility in the regulation of development near the shore. The purpose of the bill is to encourage the development of creative approaches to protect beaches and critical near-shore infrastructure threatened by sea level rise and storm damage.

LD 603 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Funding for Landfill Closure Costs

PUBLIC 93

Sponsor(s)

DILL J
DUNPHY M

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-55

This bill extends the eligibility period for closure costs for a landfill that currently applies only to a landfill licensed on or before September 1, 1989. The bill provides that if a license application for a landfill was accepted for processing on or before September 1, 1989 and the application was approved by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection within one year of accepting the application for processing, the landfill is eligible for payment of 75% of certain closure costs by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-55)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 93 extends the eligibility period for closure costs for a landfill that currently applies only