

# 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***

2. It removes the requirement that vocation-specific training and English language classes offered under the workforce training program be offered at the workplace and replaces it with language stating that the employers are to provide the time and space for classes on site, but whenever this is not feasible, employers are to provide at no cost to the employees supports such as transportation and incentives to prioritize, encourage and facilitate employee contribution.
3. It provides additional detail regarding the employees eligible for the workforce training and English language acquisition program. To be eligible, employees must be participating potential, newly hired or incumbent employees. It adds descriptions of incumbent and potential employees.
4. It further describes the program elements of the local community planning support program, which may include, but are not limited to, provision of English language acquisition classes, vocational skills training, launch of a welcome center, identification of employers and cooperating partners and cultivation of community support.
5. It adjusts the appropriation for the welcome centers to provide less funding in the first year and more in the second.
6. It makes grammatical and technical changes to the bill.

This bill was reported out of committee and then carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

**LD 671      Resolve, To Require Professional Licensure for Home Inspectors**

**RESOLVE 61**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESSLER C CHIPMAN B	ONTP OTP-AM	H-223

This bill requires that all property inspectors be licensed by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation by January 1, 2021. The bill also directs the department to adopt rules to establish standards and procedures for licensure.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-223)**

This amendment is the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business. This amendment replaces the bill, which requires licensure of home inspectors, with a resolve that requires the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct a sunrise review assessment of the proposal for licensing of home inspectors. The amendment requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business and allows the committee to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve Law 2019, chapter 61 requires the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct a sunrise review assessment of the proposal for licensing of home inspectors. Its requires the commissioner to submit a report by January 10, 2020 with any necessary legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business and allows the committee to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.