

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 AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

August 2019

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH LEGISLATURE
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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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

This bill provides that all lands beneath the mean low-water mark of waters impounded prior to January 1, 1997 are state-owned submerged lands held in trust for the benefit of the people of Maine.

LD 782 An Act Relating to Animals in Pulling Events ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARPENTER M MCCREA D	ONTP	

This bill prohibits a person handling or responsible for an animal in a pulling event from using on the animal any technique, force or method of preparing the animal for pulling that subjects the animal to pain, fear or undue stress, including but not limited to electric shock, physical punishment or artificial sweating to achieve weight. A person who engages in that activity is banned from participating in pulling events for one year for the first offense and permanently for a second offense.

LD 785 Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control To Educate the Public INDEF PP
on the Proper Use of Pesticides and To Promote Integrated Pest Management

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLACK R DUNPHY M		

This resolve was not referred to committee.

This resolve requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control to develop and disseminate to the public educational materials that promote the proper use of pesticides and promote integrated pest management.

LD 786 An Act To Reduce Hunger and Promote Maine Agriculture PUBLIC 514

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T HICKMAN C	OTP-AM	S-81 S-331 BREEN C

This bill provides an appropriation to allow the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to contract with a nonprofit organization that provides statewide hunger relief services to allow that organization to:

1. Engage in statewide hunger relief services, including, but not limited to, the purchase of food from Maine food producers and processors;
2. Provide grants to local hunger relief programs; and
3. Pay its operational and distribution expenses.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-81)

This amendment decreases the ongoing annual General Fund appropriation to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for statewide hunger relief services from \$2,500,000 to \$1,500,000.

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-331)

This amendment reduces the annual appropriation to \$1,000,000 from \$1,500,000 as proposed in Committee Amendment "A" and requires \$1,000,000 to be transferred in fiscal year 2019-20 and fiscal year 2020-21 from the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 514 provides an appropriation to allow the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to contract with a nonprofit organization that provides statewide hunger relief services to allow that organization to:

1. Engage in statewide hunger relief services, including, but not limited to, the purchase of food from Maine food producers and processors;
2. Provide grants to local hunger relief programs; and
3. Pay its operational and distribution expenses.

**LD 795 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine CARRIED OVER
To Establish a Right to Food**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN C	OTP-AM	H-430
JACKSON T	ONTP	H-541 HICKMAN C

This constitutional resolution declares that all individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to acquire, produce, process, prepare, preserve and consume and to barter, trade and purchase the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-430)

This amendment, which is the majority report, incorporates a fiscal note.

House Amendment "A" (H-541)

This amendment amends the resolution by:

1. Removing the word "acquire" from the enumeration of the elements of an individual's right to food and removing the language limiting the exercise of acquisition;
2. Removing language establishing a fundamental right to be free from hunger, starvation and the endangerment of life due to scarcity of or lack of access to food; and
3. Specifying that the right to food does not allow an individual to abuse private property rights or abuse public lands or natural resources in the harvesting of food.

This resolution was reported out of committee and then carried over in the House to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.