

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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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

LD 796

An Act To Reestablish the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Conservation

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN C BLACK R	ONTP	

This emergency bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to reestablish the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Conservation, or "the departments," which were merged into the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Public Law 2011, chapter 657. In addition to reestablishing the departments as separate entities with separate commissioners, this bill would:

1. Reestablish the original missions of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources and the Department of Conservation;
2. Reestablish critical administrative and program positions in the departments, including positions charged with responsibilities associated with economic development;
3. Address deficiencies in the departments in staffing and funding;
4. Address stagnation in the departments in program development and planning;
5. Allow the reestablished Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources the ability to devote resources to aid farmers and to devise solutions to present-day challenges facing agricultural industries in the State;
6. Establish new goals for promoting and protecting Maine's natural beauty and the unique character of its land, waterways, wildlife habitats and wilderness resources;
7. Establish new goals for improving the agricultural economy in Maine, maintaining and strengthening rural life and values and enhancing the preservation of the rural skills, food supply, health and nutrition of the people of the State; and
8. Demonstrate Maine's commitment to its goal of becoming the "bread basket" for New England.

LD 840

An Act Regarding the Control of Browntail Moths

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COOPER J BREEN C	ONTP	

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to control the problems caused by browntail moths by:

1. Requiring a state agency, on its own or by contracting with an outside entity, to determine the best practices for controlling or eliminating the browntail moth infestation in Maine; and
2. Appropriating funds for payment to members of the public for the collection and disposal of browntail moth cocoons.