

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION,  
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT  
AND BUSINESS**

November 2020

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# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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***

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations Table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill amends the nursing education loan repayment program as follows:

1. It extends eligibility to apply to individuals who are currently enrolled in master's or doctoral degree programs;
2. It specifies that applicants must indicate an intention to work as full-time nursing faculty in a nursing education program in the State and increases the required commitment from three to five years after acceptance into the nursing education loan repayment program; and
3. It increases the maximum amount of loans eligible for repayment under the program from \$4,500 to \$30,000 for a master's degree, and from \$6,000 to \$60,000 for a doctoral degree.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-558)**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill and creates a new loan repayment program, administered by the Finance Authority of Maine, for health care providers who agree to live and work in the State for a minimum of five years. Under the program, the authority will pay up to \$30,000 per year and the lesser of \$150,000 in aggregate and 50% of the recipient's outstanding loan balance. The amendment establishes a fund for the program, sets parameters for the administration of the program and establishes an advisory committee to guide the work of the Finance Authority of Maine in administering the program. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

This bill was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

**LD 814**

**An Act To Strengthen Maine's Economy through Research and  
Innovation led by the University of Maine System**

**Leave to Withdraw  
Pursuant to Joint  
Rule**

Sponsor(s)

HERBIG E  
HUBBELL B

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill would provide funding and enact measures based on recommendations of the President of the University of Maine at Machias in a strategic plan chartered by the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and due to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System in March 2019. The bill would strengthen research and economic development efforts across the University of Maine System to support Maine industries and workforce development and to foster business formation and expansion, specifically in the seven research and development sectors designated in statute: advanced technology for agriculture and forestry; aquaculture and marine technology; biotechnology; composite materials technology; environmental technology; information technology; and precision manufacturing technology.