

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 INNOVATION,
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT
AND BUSINESS**

August 2019

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STAFF:

SAMUEL SENFT, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

*Committee member for a portion of the session

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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 Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

The program is contingent on funding from the proceeds from the renewal of the contract for the operations of the State's wholesale spirits business.

LD 875 An Act To Require Warranty Coverage for Damage to Manufactured Homes during Transportation and Handling ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACKLEY K | ONTP | |

This bill requires that warranties for manufactured homes include covering damage to a manufactured home during transportation or handling, for which the dealer is required to take corrective action. This bill also requires a dealer of manufactured housing to place an amount equal to 10% of the purchase price in escrow that may not be released to the dealer until both the dealer and consumer execute a release subsequent to the installation and final inspection of the manufactured housing.

LD 890 An Act To Expand Workforce Access by Creating Apprenticeship Programs To Increase Access to Licensure in Certain Occupations ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KEIM L DAUGHTRY M | ONTP | |

This bill expands access to the workforce by allowing individuals to fulfill licensing requirements through participation in apprenticeship programs, thus allowing participants to earn a paycheck at the same time as they acquire hands-on training and experience. Under this bill:

1. The licensing boards for the occupations that are included in this expanded apprenticeship program will grant licenses to applicants who meet criteria established by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation;
2. The criteria established may include, without limitation:
 - A. Successful completion of the 8th grade;
 - B. Completion of an apprenticeship that is approved by the Department of Labor or the United States Department of Labor or in accordance with any applicable state or federal law. For purposes of this bill, "apprenticeship" is defined as a program that meets the federal guidelines set out in 29 United States Code, Section 50 and 29 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 29; and
 - C. Successful completion of any necessary examination, as determined by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. The passing score on an examination for a participant in the expanded apprenticeship model may not exceed the passing score that is otherwise required under the rules adopted by the applicable licensing board. If the rules adopted by the applicable licensing board do not otherwise require successful completion of an examination, an examination may not be required for participation in the expanded apprenticeship program; and
3. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation is required to adopt rules necessary to implement the expanded apprenticeship program, including limitations on the length of and the numbers of hours required by each authorized apprenticeship.

Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

The content of this resolve was incorporated in LD 1768, which was reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business and enacted and Public Law 2019, chapter 373.

LD 895 An Act To Promote Economic Development through Research and Development **Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| LAWRENCE M TIPPING R | | |

This bill provides ongoing funds to the Maine Economic Improvement Fund within the University of Maine System to support research and development.

LD 896 Resolve, Directing the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation To Study a Voluntary Licensing System for General Contractors for Home Improvement and Construction **ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHENETTE J CAIAZZO C | ONTP | |

This resolve directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, in conjunction with the Department of Labor, to study the development of a voluntary licensing system for general contractors for home improvement and construction. The department is required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by December 4, 2019, and the committee is authorized to submit a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 897 An Act To Restore Funding for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District **Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| POULIOT M DOORE D | ONTP OTP-AM | |

This bill provides ongoing funds of \$50,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-62)

This amendment which is the minority report of the committee, incorporates a fiscal note.

This amendment was not adopted.