

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 JUDICIARY

August 2019

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STAFF:

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

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 Judiciary

LD 916 **An Act To Improve the Child Protective Court System**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S HARNETT T	ONTP	

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

This bill would establish a process within the court system to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that child protective cases involving the same child are assigned to and heard by the same judge throughout the entire process while the child is a minor.

LD 954 **An Act To Rescind An Act To Implement the Maine Indian Claims Settlement**

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B JACKSON T		

This bill repeals An Act to Implement the Maine Indian Claims Settlement. The repeal does not take effect unless approved by the Houlton Band Council of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Tribal Chief and the Council of the Penobscot Nation and the Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe within 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session, or both, of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

LD 978 **An Act To Clarify Maine's Protection from Abuse Statutes**

PUBLIC 176

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BAILEY D	OTP ONTP	

This bill clarifies that when a court directs a defendant in a protection from abuse case to refrain from having any direct or indirect contact with the plaintiff, this includes direct or indirect contact via social media, consistent with the ruling of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in *State v. Heffron*, 2018 ME 102, 190 A.3d 232.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 176, clarifies that when a court directs a defendant in a protection from abuse case to refrain from having any direct or indirect contact with the plaintiff, this includes direct or indirect contact via social media, consistent with the ruling of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in *State v. Heffron*, 2018 ME 102, 190 A.3d 232.