

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
LABOR AND HOUSING**

August 2019

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STAFF:

DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, SR. 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 Labor and Housing

LD 901 An Act To Clarify the Statute of Limitations under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SYLVESTER M	ONTP	

This bill removes changes that were made by Public Law 2011, chapter 647 to the law governing the statute of limitations for workers' compensation claims and restores the law to the language that was held by the Law Court in *Wilson v. Bath Iron Works*, 942 A.2d 1237 (Me. 2008) to mean that, for purposes of filing a petition under the workers' compensation laws, the statute of limitations expires 2 years after the date of injury or two years after the date the employer files the first report of injury, whichever is later.

LD 919 An Act To Establish a Minimum Mileage Reimbursement Rate for Traveling Sales Representatives Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL J STANLEY S	ONTP OTP	

This bill requires an employer to provide mileage reimbursement for an employee who travels as a sales representative who is required to use the employee's private automobile to perform the employee's duties. This reimbursement is included as wages for purposes of the laws requiring timely and full payment of wages and for wages due at cessation of employment.

LD 947 An Act To Extend the Notice of Injury Period in the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S SYLVESTER M	ONTP	

Under current law governing workers' compensation, an employee must provide notice of injury to an employer within 30 days after the date of injury. This bill provides that, for claims for which the date of injury is on or after January 1, 2020, an employee must provide to the employer notice of the injury within 180 days after the date of injury.

While LD 947 was voted "Ought Not to Pass," a provision extending the notice period from 30 days to 60 days after the date of injury for claims for which the date of injury is on or after January 1, 2020 was included in LD 756, An Act To Improve the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992. See LD 756, which was enacted as Public Law 2019, chapter 344.