

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 ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

August 2019

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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 Environment and Natural Resources

LD 952 An Act To Coordinate and Standardize Data Collection Protocols

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)

DEVIN M

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill, which is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, proposes to amend the laws to coordinate and standardize data collection protocols.

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

LD 955 An Act To Prohibit Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Drilling and Exploration

PUBLIC 294

Sponsor(s)

DEVIN M
FOLEY R

Committee Report

OTP-AM
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

H-425

This bill prohibits a person from performing or causing to be performed any oil or natural gas exploration, development or production in, on or under the waters of the State or that may adversely affect the waters of the State.

The bill also prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection and the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry from permitting, approving or otherwise authorizing any oil or natural gas exploration, development or production in, on or under the submerged and intertidal land owned by the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-425)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, amends the bill to clarify the prohibition on oil or natural gas exploration, development or production activities as follows.

1. It amends certain definitions to more clearly delineate the activities regulated and to specify that the transfer of oil or natural gas resources to or from the waters of the State, including both onloading and offloading of oil or natural gas resources between an oil terminal facility and a vessel or between vessels, is not prohibited under the bill.

2. It removes language specifically prohibiting exploration, development or production activities that may adversely affect the waters of the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 294 prohibits a person from performing or causing to be performed any oil or natural gas exploration, development or production in, on or under the waters of the State.

The enacted law also prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection from permitting, approving or otherwise authorizing any oil or natural gas exploration, development or production in, on or under the waters of the State and prohibits the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry from permitting, approving or otherwise authorizing any oil or natural gas exploration,

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

development or production in, on or under the submerged and intertidal land owned by the State.

LD 959 An Act To Increase Funding for the Maine Lakes Society "LakeSmart" Program and the Lake Stewards of Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program PUBLIC 519

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KESCHL D | OTP-AM | H-102 S-333 BREEN C |

This bill provides increased funding to allow the Department of Environmental Protection to make grants to the Lake Stewards of Maine for the volunteer lake monitoring program and the Maine Lakes Society for the "LakeSmart" education program. This bill also provides funds to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission for pollution control training programs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-102)

This amendment increases the annual funding increase proposed in the bill for New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-333)

This amendment amends Committee Amendment "A" to reduce by \$75,000 per fiscal year the appropriations in the amended bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 519 provides increased funding to allow the Department of Environmental Protection to make grants to the Lake Stewards of Maine for the volunteer lake monitoring program and the Maine Lakes Society for the "LakeSmart" education program. It also provides funds to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission for pollution control training programs.

LD 975 Resolve, Directing the Department of Environmental Protection To Review and Update Its Report on Emissions from Marine Vessels ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ZEIGLER S | ONTP | |

This resolve requires the Department of Environmental Protection to review and update its report submitted to the Legislature dated January 15, 2005 and concerning issues related to air emissions from marine vessels. The department is required to present its findings and the updated report by January 15, 2020 to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. The committees are authorized to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 983 An Act To Exempt from Natural Resources Protection Act Permit Requirements Certain Maintenance and Repairs of Nonhydropower Dams PUBLIC 124

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KESCHL D | OTP-AM | H-174 |