

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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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 1008 **An Act To Include State Employee Stipends as Earnable Compensation** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GATTINE D BELLOWS S	ONTP	

This bill requires that stipends paid to a member of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System be counted as earnable compensation for purposes of calculating retirement benefits.

LD 1013 **An Act To Clarify the Disqualification from Unemployment Benefits of a Person Who Is Terminated from Employment for Being Under the Influence of Marijuana** **PUBLIC 125**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CYRWAY S BRADSTREET D	OTP-AM	S-39 S-71 BELLOWS S

This bill clarifies that an individual whose employment is terminated because of the individual's being under the influence of marijuana while on duty or when reporting to work is disqualified from unemployment benefits, as is currently the case for alcohol and illegal drugs.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-39)

This amendment removes the provision of the bill that includes being under the influence of marijuana while on duty or when reporting to work, which is the same provision as using illegal drugs, and instead includes marijuana in the current disqualification from unemployment benefits for an individual whose employment is terminated because of intoxication while on duty or when reporting to work or engaging in unauthorized use of alcohol while on duty.

Senate Amendment "B" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-71)

This amendment excepts from the disqualification from unemployment benefits for marijuana use the use of marijuana permitted under the laws governing the medical use of marijuana.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 125 includes marijuana in the current disqualification from unemployment benefits for an individual whose employment is terminated because of intoxication while on duty or when reporting to work or engaging in unauthorized use of alcohol while on duty. It excepts from the disqualification from unemployment benefits for marijuana use the use of marijuana permitted under the laws governing the medical use of marijuana.

LD 1017 **Resolve, To Direct the Department of Labor To Develop a Framework for Encouraging Employers To Identify Safer Alternatives to Hazardous Chemicals** **RESOLVE 47**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARSON B	OTP-AM ONTP	S-114