

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

August 2019

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# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> 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 129<sup>th</sup> 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 129<sup>th</sup> 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 Taxation*

**LD 1042 An Act To Exempt Disabled Veterans from Property Taxes in Accordance with Their Disability Ratings**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROBERTS-LOVELL		

This bill permits a veteran with a service-connected disability rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs at 30% or greater to choose to receive a homestead exemption equal to 50% of the just value of the homestead multiplied by the veteran's percentage disability rating instead of the current homestead exemption and exemptions for veterans and legally blind persons. The bill requires the State to reimburse municipalities for 75% of the revenue loss attributable to the new exemption.

See also LDs 163, 1194, 1271 and 1326.

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

**LD 1044 An Act To Advance Children's Cancer Research in Maine**

**PUBLIC 433**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HEAD F JACKSON T	OTP-AM	H-441

This bill was rereferred from the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation with the recommendation that the bill establish an income tax checkoff contribution. The original bill creates the option for an individual to make a donation upon vehicle registration or renewal in support of children's cancer research and establishes the Maine Children's Cancer Research Fund for collection of the donations. All donations are transferred quarterly to an entity determined by the Secretary of State and must be used exclusively for children's cancer research.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-441)**

This amendment replaces the bill and establishes the Maine Children's Cancer Research Fund administered by the Department of Health and Human Services to support children's cancer research. Amounts available in the fund must be used to provide grants and other funding to support children's cancer research provided by research facilities in Maine that operate children's cancer programs. The amendment also requires the inclusion of a check-off provision on Maine income tax forms for taxpayers who wish to contribute to the fund. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 433, establishes the Maine Children's Cancer Research Fund administered by the Department of Health and Human Services to support children's cancer research. Amounts available in the fund must be used to provide grants and other funding to support children's cancer research provided by research facilities in Maine that operate children's cancer programs. The law also requires the inclusion of a checkoff provision on Maine income tax forms for taxpayers who wish to contribute to the fund.