

# 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*

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 148 expands the types of projects eligible for tax increment financing by including public safety facilities instead of only fire stations as allowed under current law. The law defines "public safety facility" and caps the percentage of tax increment financing funds per development district that may be used for public safety facilities located outside the district.

**LD 1123      An Act Regarding Telecommunications Infrastructure Costs      ONTP**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>   | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BLACK R<br>LANDRY S | ONTP                    |                           |

This bill amends the laws governing development districts designated by a municipality or plantation to provide that costs associated with broadband and fiber optics expansion projects, including preparation, planning, engineering and other related costs in addition to the construction costs of such projects, whether or not such expansion projects serve residential or business areas within the municipality or plantation are authorized project costs.

See also LD 854.

**LD 1131      Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Study and Report on the Need for Modifications To Make Homes Accessible for Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities      RESOLVE 50**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>           | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MORALES V<br>DESCHAMBAULT S | OTP-AM                  | H-327                     |

This bill changes the maximum income eligibility level for the income tax credit for home modifications to improve accessibility and the Maine State Housing Authority pilot project to assist older adults and persons with disabilities with certain home modifications. The new income eligibility level for each program is changed to the area median income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the county or municipality in which the home is located.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-327)**

This amendment changes the bill to a resolve and directs the Maine State Housing Authority to work with interested parties to study and make recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature regarding the need, with reference to geographical areas of the State, for home modifications to provide accessibility for low-income older or disabled residents of the State in order to permit those persons to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization.

See also LD 6.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 50, directs the Maine State Housing Authority to work with interested parties to study and make recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature regarding the need, with reference to geographical areas of the State, for home modifications to provide accessibility for low-income older or disabled residents of the State in order to permit those persons to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization.