

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

November 2020

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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 Special and Second Regular Sessions 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 Special Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature is Monday, November 25, 2019 and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Regular Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Tuesday, June 16, 2020. 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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

revises provisions regulating quality standards and requires competitive bidding when more than one producer or broker or wholesaler can supply a given foodstuff.

### Committee Amendment "A" (H-761)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment provides that it is the policy of the State to encourage the procurement of Maine foods and food products by state institutions to increase the viability of Maine farms and food businesses, thus making a positive contribution to the State's economy and enhancing food self-sufficiency for the State. The amendment directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish and promote a Maine foods procurement program with the goal that, no later than 2025, 20% of food and food products procured by state institutions are Maine food or food products.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 677 provides that it is the policy of the State to encourage the procurement of Maine foods and food products by state institutions to increase the viability of Maine farms and food businesses, thus making a positive contribution to the State's economy and enhancing food self-sufficiency for the State. The law directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish and promote a Maine foods procurement program with the goal that, no later than 2025, 20% of food and food products procured by state institutions are Maine food or food products.

**LD 1270      An Act To Create Certain Recreational Opportunities on State-owned Land** **Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T COREY P	ONTP OTP	

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

The bill provides that, beginning January 1, 2020, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands may develop new marked hiking trails within the unorganized territory on which loaded firearms are permitted and within 300 feet of which, during the months of October and November, firearms may be discharged.

**LD 1311      An Act Regarding the Sale of Dogs and Cats at Pet Shops** **PUBLIC 544**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN B	ONTP OTP-AM	S-272

This bill prohibits a pet shop from selling dogs and cats and establishes a fine of \$500 per violation as well as license suspension or revocation. A pet shop may provide space to an animal rescue entity to offer to the public dogs and cats for adoption.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-272)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, does the following:

1. It allows pet shops that are currently lawfully offering dogs or cats for sale to continue to offer dogs and cats for

*Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*

sale as long as the ownership of the pet shop does not change and the number of dogs and cats offered for sale does not increase. It allows for limited transfers of ownership of a family-owned pet shop to a spouse, domestic partner or child of the oldest member of the family having an ownership interest;

2. It removes from the definition of "animal rescue entity" the exclusions that allow for certain associations with breeders; and

3. It removes the word "nominal" as a descriptor of the adoption fee that may be charged for dogs and cats offered for adoption by an animal rescue entity.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 544 prohibits a pet shop from selling dogs and cats and establishes a fine of \$500 per violation as well as license suspension or revocation. It allows pet shops that are currently lawfully offering dogs or cats for sale to continue to offer dogs and cats for sale as long as the ownership of the pet shop does not change and the number of dogs and cats offered for sale does not increase. It allows for limited transfers of ownership of a family-owned pet shop to a spouse, domestic partner or child of the oldest member of the family having an ownership interest. A pet shop may provide space to an animal rescue entity to offer to the public dogs and cats for adoption.

**LD 1518 An Act To Establish a Fund for Portions of the Operations and Outreach Activities of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory**

**PUBLIC 548**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STANLEY S	OTP-AM ONTP	H-554

This bill establishes the Tick Laboratory and Pest Management Fund administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to fund the tick laboratory and other pest management research and projects and directs the extension's pest management unit to study browntail moths as the first of a series of pest research projects to be determined every three years by a committee designated by the University of Maine. The fund is funded by a pesticide container fee of 20¢ per container administered by the State Tax Assessor. This bill also creates a duty of the Board of Pesticides Control to investigate complaints of violations of local, state and federal pesticide laws and requires the Board of Pesticides Control to review any request by a political subdivision to eliminate the use of a certain pesticide within that political subdivision.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-554)**

The bill establishes the Tick Laboratory and Pest Management Fund. This amendment provides that the fund is administered by the University of Maine at Orono to fund the tick laboratory and other pest management research and projects. The amendment provides that a portion of the funds must be provided for ongoing reimbursement, up to \$60,000 annually, to the Board of Pesticides Control to generate and maintain a list of pesticides registered with the board and make available to the public through the board's publicly accessible website the list and answer inquiries relating to the list.

The amendment provides that a portion of the fund may be used by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension pest management unit for nonadministrative costs related to a tick laboratory, including, but not limited to: development of educational materials; equipment, materials and supplies; and facility expansion.

The amendment makes changes to the composition of the pest research committee as described in the bill.