

# 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  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

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 State and Local Government*

**LD 1394**    **Resolve, To Direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services To Conduct a Surplus Property Inventory**

**RESOLVE 62**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MORALES V	OTP-AM	H-263

This resolve directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to conduct an inventory of surplus state-owned land and structures pursuant to the authority and process established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1742, subsection 23 and to work with the Maine State Housing Authority to determine suitability of identified surplus land and structures for development of affordable housing. It directs the department to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing regarding the inventory and to make recommendations regarding affordable housing by February 1, 2020.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-263)**

This amendment removes an inaccurate clause from the preamble. It adds a requirement that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services provide an inventory of surplus state-owned land and structures to the Maine State Housing Authority. The amendment also provides the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government with the option to introduce a bill in the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the resolve.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 62 requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to:

1. Conduct an inventory of surplus state-owned land and structures;
2. Provide the inventory to and consult with the Maine State Housing Authority to determine the suitability of surplus land and structures for use in the development of affordable housing; and
3. Provide a report on the outcomes of the inventory and recommendations regarding affordable housing to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing and the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government by February 1, 2020.

The Joint Standing on State and Local Government may introduce legislation on the subject matter of the resolve in the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

**LD 1415**    **An Act To Improve the Laws Regarding Discontinued and Abandoned Roads**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NADEAU C DIAMOND B		

This bill eliminates that presumption of discontinuation by abandonment of town or county public ways effective January 1, 2020. This bill adds a provision clarifying that the discontinuation process established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 3026-A is available. This bill amends the filing required by the clerk of a municipality following the determination of discontinuance by abandonment of a town way to require that the record filed with the registry of deeds include the evidence used by the municipality to make the determination of discontinuation by abandonment and the effective date of that determination.