

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 INNOVATION,
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT
AND BUSINESS**

August 2019

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129TH 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 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 Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

LD 1445 An Act To Provide Debt-free Educational Opportunities for Maine Residents

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROOKS H MIRAMANT D	ONTP	

This bill establishes the Debt-free Educational Opportunities for Maine Residents program. The bill requires, beginning in fiscal year 2019-20, the Finance Authority of Maine to provide eligible Maine residents a grant in the amount of the cost of tuition and other expenses related to the cost of attendance at an eligible school, including the cost of room and board, books, supplies and fees, charged to a student enrolled in courses leading to completion of an eligible program of study on at least a part-time basis at a public institution of higher education in the State in which the student is enrolled, less all other gift aid. An eligible program of study means a curriculum leading to a baccalaureate degree, associate degree or certificate. An eligible full-time or part-time student may receive a grant for one academic year and may receive grants for the equivalent of a four-year baccalaureate program at the eligible school the student is attending.

LD 1481 An Act To Establish the Big Moose Mountain Regional Development Authority

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEARNS P DAVIS P		

This bill does the following:

1. Establishes the Big Moose Mountain Regional Development Authority as a public municipal corporation with associated rights and responsibilities, including the ability to sue and be sued; adopt bylaws and rules; exercise the general powers of corporations; exercise the power of eminent domain; impose rules relating to the use of the property; charge and collect fees; contract with the federal government, the state and other public and private entities; borrow money; apply for loans, grants and other forms of assistance; provide funds for the maintenance, construction and operation of facilities; and take other lawful actions;
2. Establishes a board of trustees comprised of 10 voting members appointed by the Governor and subject to review by the Legislative committee having jurisdiction over economic development matters and to confirmation by the Senate;
3. Allows the authority to acquire, sell, or leased in order to accomplish the purposes of the bill;
4. Allows the authority to form special utility districts and provide municipal utility services within its jurisdiction;
5. Allows the authority to issue bonds after providing public notice;
6. Allows the authority to ask the State to issue bond to finance the undertaking of any authorized activity. Such bonds must be authorized by the Legislature in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of Maine;
7. Requires the authority to submit an annual report with specified information to the Governor, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters no later than 120 days after the close of the authority’s fiscal year; and

Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

8. Requires the authority to report the status of the establishment of the authority to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business during the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

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

LD 1502 An Act To Expand Access to the Workforce through Apprenticeships ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARRIN B HIGGINS N	ONTP	

This bill establishes an alternative path to licensure through apprenticeship for certain professions. The bill requires that, beginning January 1, 2020, the appropriate licensing authority grant to a person that has successfully completed eighth grade, passed any required examinations and completed an approved apprenticeship a license to practice as:

1. An auctioneer;
2. A dietetic technician;
3. A veterinary technician;
4. A pharmacy technician;
5. A basic emergency medical technician;
6. A well driller, geothermal heat exchange well driller, geothermal heat exchange well pump installer or pump installer;
7. An athletic trainer;
8. A cosmetologist, barber, limited barber, nail technician or aesthetician;
9. A massage therapist or massage practitioner; and
10. A limited interpreter, limited transliterator, limited deaf interpreter, certified interpreter, certified deaf interpreter or certified transliterator.

LD 1506 Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Facilitate the Creation of a Strategic Economic Plan Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HUBBELL B DOW D		