

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**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 JUDICIARY**

August 2019

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. MICHAEL E. CARPENTER, CHAIR  
SEN. SHENNA BELLOWS  
SEN. LISA M. KEIM

REP. DONNA BAILEY, CHAIR  
REP. CHRISTOPHER BABBIDGE  
REP. BARBARA A. CARDONE  
REP. LOIS GALGAY RECKITT  
REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS  
REP. THOM HARNETT  
REP. DAVID G. HAGGAN  
REP. PHILIP CURTIS  
REP. JOHN DEVEAU  
REP. JEFFREY EVANGELOS

**STAFF:**

MARGARET J. REINSCH, SENIOR LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/opla/>

# STATE OF MAINE

129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## 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 Judiciary

Part C of the amendment amends the Freedom of Access Act to require the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters to conduct a review of any proposed statutory authorization of remote participation or change in accessibility with respect to public proceedings.

This amendment was not adopted.

### **LD 1516 An Act To Improve Efficiency in Communication in the Court System**

**PUBLIC 497**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOONEN M SANBORN L	OTP-AM	H-270 S-344 BREEN C

This bill provides funding to the Judicial Branch to allow it to develop and implement a text message notification system to provide information regarding pending court cases, such as location, calendar, case category and case type, to involved parties.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (H-270)**

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause and reduces the appropriation to reflect the new effective date.

#### **Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-344)**

This amendment replaces the appropriations and allocations section. It provides funding for one part-time Project Manager Associate position instead of one full-time position.

#### **Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 497, provides funding to the Judicial Branch to allow it to develop and implement a text message notification system to provide information regarding pending court cases, such as location, calendar, case category and case type, to involved parties. It provides funding for one part-time Project Manager Associate position.

### **LD 1522 An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Orders of Abandonment for Residential Properties in Foreclosure**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FOLEY R CAMPBELL D	ONTP	

This bill allows a condominium association to act as a party in interest in a judicial foreclosure action to present evidence of abandonment of mortgaged premises and file a motion to determine that the premises are abandoned. This bill also requires a plaintiff prevailing in a foreclosure action against premises that include dwelling units occupied by tenants to pay any rent received from those tenants, after deducting reasonable costs for acting as the landlord, to a condominium association that is a party in interest.

### **LD 1535 An Act To Correct Errors and Inconsistencies Related to the Maine Uniform Probate Code and To Make Other Substantive Changes**

**PUBLIC 417  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-632