

# 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 CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety*

Public Law 2019, chapter 249 amends the fireworks laws in the following ways:

1. By adding the term "flame effects" to the definition of "display;"
2. By adding flame effects to the types of displays for which a permit must be obtained; and
3. By removing the requirement that indoor pyrotechnic events be monitored by the State Fire Marshal or the State Fire Marshal's designee and instead requiring that indoor pyrotechnic and flame effects events be inspected by the State Fire Marshal or the State Fire Marshal's designee.

**LD 1543 An Act To Amend the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code**

**PUBLIC 392**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN B	OTP-AM ONTP	S-235

This bill amends provisions regarding the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code by requiring the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to adopt and maintain an appendix to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code that contains energy conservation and efficiency requirements that exceed the requirements in the code, to make the appendix available for voluntary adoption by municipalities and to maintain a list of those municipalities on the board's publicly accessible website.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-235)**

This amendment requires that as the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code is updated the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board ensure that the appendix continues to exceed the energy conservation and efficiency standards contained in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2019, chapter 392 requires the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to adopt a voluntary appendix to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code that contains energy conservation and efficiency standards that exceed those contained in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. The bill also requires the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to ensure the appendix continues to exceed the energy conservation and efficiency standards contained in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code as the code is updated.

**LD 1550 An Act To Create a Victims' Compensation Fund for Victims of Property Crimes**

**HELD BY GOVERNOR**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N	OTP-AM ONTP	S-305 S-356 LIBBY N

This bill creates the Victims' Property Compensation Fund to compensate victims of crimes in which the victims suffered property losses, patterned after the existing Victims' Compensation Fund, which compensates victims of crimes for damages resulting from personal injuries resulting from those crimes. The Victims' Property Compensation Fund is funded by an assessment of \$10 on any person convicted of murder or a Class A crime, Class B crime or Class C crime and \$5 on any person convicted of a Class D crime or Class E crime and may compensate a victim of a property crime up to \$5,000 for property losses or insurance deductibles paid pursuant to an insurance claim as a result of the property loss. The bill provides that the existing Victims' Compensation Board hears claims made upon the Victims' Property Compensation Fund.

***Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety***

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-305)**

This amendment adds two members to the Victims' Compensation Board, amends its quorum from two to three members and clarifies that the board performs the duties assigned to it under the victims' property compensation program beginning July 1, 2022. The amendment allows the board to compensate a victim of a crime up to \$1,000 for property losses or insurance deductibles paid pursuant to an insurance claim as a result of the property loss. The amendment provides July 1, 2022 as the date on which the board is authorized to begin to process or pay claims. The amendment removes from the bill the prohibition on the court's waiving the imposition of the assessment that funds the Victims' Property Compensation Fund. The amendment removes from the bill eligibility for an award for a person who is the victim of a crime that occurred in another state or a crime of terrorism that occurred outside of the country. The amendment provides for rulemaking for the Victims' Property Compensation Fund and designates rules for both this fund and the Victims' Compensation Fund as routine technical rules. The amendment amends the law on restitution for victims of a crime so that, once a victim has been compensated as allowed by law from either fund or a combination of a fund and restitution, any additional restitution payments are paid into the applicable fund. The provisions of law incorporating the Victims' Property Compensation Fund into the duties of the Victims' Compensation Board and increasing the membership of that board do not apply until July 1, 2022.

**Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-356)**

This amendment authorizes the judicial branch in fiscal year 2019-20 to retain up to \$10,000 of the funds collected pursuant to the assessments imposed on convicted persons to be used by the judicial branch for technology-related upgrades.

**LD 1569 An Act To Prohibit Untraceable and Undetectable Firearms**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RECKITT L	ONTP	

This bill regulates the manufacture, distribution and possession of so-called ghost guns and so-called 3-D printed guns or 3-D guns, which are fully functioning firearms that can be made at home by unlicensed firearm manufacturers, sellers and distributors either by purchasing the necessary parts separately, or as part of mail order gun kits, and then assembling them at home or by downloading a computer code from the Internet that allows the user to manufacture the gun using a 3-D printer. This bill provides definitions of "undetectable firearm" and "untraceable firearm" and prohibits the manufacture, import, sale, transfer and possession of such firearms with certain exceptions. This bill also prohibits, with certain exceptions, the dissemination of downloadable gun code from which untraceable firearms can be manufactured.

**LD 1632 An Act Regarding Criminal Procedure with Respect to Allowable Defenses**

**PUBLIC 462**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WARREN C CHENETTE J	OTP ONTP	

This bill prohibits the use of what is referred to as the "gay and trans panic defense."

The bill provides that when considering whether a defendant has an abnormal condition of the mind in determining whether a requisite culpable mental state exists in the defendant, a determination of abnormal condition of the mind may not be based on the defendant's discovery of, knowledge about or potential disclosure of the victim's actual or perceived gender, gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation, including under circumstances in which