

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

August 2019

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STATE OF MAINE

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 State and Local Government

for any way that was discontinued prior to September 3, 1965 that resulted in a public easement;

5. Moves a provision of law relating to the removal of snow fences along public highways from a section relating to mail routes to the section of law relating to snow removal;

6. Requires a town to maintain any public right-of-way used as part of a United States postal route in passable condition for postal service delivery except that if the postal service route is seasonal, the right-of-way must be maintained for the applicable season; and

7. Provides that a failure of a town to meet the snow removal and other maintenance requirements of Maine law is deemed a failure to maintain a way under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, chapter 313 and the actions and remedies specified in sections 3651 to 3655 of that chapter apply to such a failure.

LD 1541 An Act To Establish "Ballad of the 20th Maine" as the Official State Ballad PUBLIC 250

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUDDY S	OTP ONTP	

This bill establishes the "Ballad of the 20th Maine" as the official ballad of the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2019, chapter 250 establishes the official ballad of the State is the "Ballad of the 20th Maine" as recorded and performed by the band The Ghost of Paul Revere.

LD 1553 An Act Directing That the Towns Constituting Hospital Administrative District No. 4 Hold a Vote on the Proposed Merger with Northern Light Health P & S 5 EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAVIS P HIGGINS N	OTP-AM	S-63

This bill requires that, notwithstanding any applicable notice requirements, each of the towns of Abbot, Atkinson, Bradford, Cambridge, Dexter, Dover-Foxcroft, Guilford, Milo, Monson, Parkman, Sangerville, Sebec and Willimantic hold an advisory vote no later than April 30, 2019 on the proposed merger of Hospital Administrative District No. 4 with Northern Light Health. Unless a town's charter otherwise provides, the vote must be taken at a town meeting. The results of the vote in each town must be declared by the municipal officers of the town and transmitted to the board of directors of Hospital Administrative District No. Four.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-63)

This amendment changes the date for the advisory vote from April 30, 2019 to May 7, 2019, adds a mandate preamble to the bill and corrects the date of the merger agreement.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 5 mandates that each of the towns comprising Hospital Administrative District No. 4 hold an advisory vote of the inhabitants by May 7, 2019 to determine whether they favor the merger of Hospital Administrative District No. 4 with Northern Light Health in accordance with the March 19, 2019 agreement and plan of merger.

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Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 5 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 25, 2019.

LD 1568 An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of Magalloway Plantation

P & S 13

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HEAD F DOW D	OTP-AM	H-339

This bill provides for the deorganization of Magalloway Plantation in Oxford County, subject to approval at local referendum and execution of a withdrawal agreement from Regional School Unit No. 78.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-339)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2019, chapter 13 authorizes the deorganization of Magalloway Plantation in accordance with the deorganization plan dated October 23, 2018 provided a majority of legal voters of the plantation approve the deorganization by ballot at the next general election to be held in November.

LD 1581 An Act To Restore County Tax Appropriation Integrity

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAMPSON H	ONTP	

This bill provides specificity for the use and expenditure of funds by county governments by:

1. Limiting the payment of expenditures for the priority-designated social service of transportation to transportation for access to health care services;
2. Limiting grants that are paid to agencies outside of the regular county departments to those that have been statutorily authorized;
3. Requiring the Office of the State Auditor, when conducting an audit of a county, to report any transaction not authorized by statute to the district attorney for that county; and
4. Specifying that the ability of county commissioners to approve county expenditures is limited to those expenditures that are statutorily authorized.

LD 1587 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Nominations of County Commissioners, the Terms of County Commissioners and County Commissioner Districts

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
POULIOT M	ONTP	