

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 AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

August 2019

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STATE OF MAINE

129TH 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 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 Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

direct financial investment to the areas of greatest need in the food system.

The program is also authorized to make recommendations regarding rules or legislation to the department and the Legislature that will direct investment or establish policies or priorities in carrying out the goals of the program. The program is required to submit a six-month and a one-year report to the Legislature subsequent to the implementation of the program and an annual report on the progress of and developments regarding the 10-year strategic framework.

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

LD 1540 An Act Concerning Timber Harvesting on Public Lands and in State Parks, Historic Sites and the Restricted Zone of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNPHY M DILL J	ONTP	

This bill amends and enacts provisions regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands' management of timber harvesting on state property under its jurisdiction, including:

1. Requiring the bureau to report on the State's actual and potential forest inventory status and needs, including the need for a sawmill or other forest products processing facility to be located in the State;
2. Requiring contractors harvesting timber at state parks, historic sites and the restricted zone in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway to be established businesses in the State and to meet other requirements;
3. Requiring forest products harvested or collected from state parks, historic sites, public lands or the restricted zone in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, unless used by the state parks, historic sites or Allagash Wilderness Waterway, to be sold to a sawmill or other forest products processing or manufacturing facility located in the State to be processed or manufactured at the facility;
4. Declaring that it is in the public interest and for the general benefit of the people of the State that title, possession and the responsibility for the management of nonreserved public lands be vested and established in the bureau acting on behalf of the people of the State and that the lands be managed to demonstrate exemplary land management practices, including silvicultural, wildlife and recreational practices, that reflect state policies governing management of forested and related types of lands; and
5. Requiring that the annual report dealing with public reserved lands identify persons who conduct timber harvesting on the lands and the sawmill or other forest products processing or manufacturing facility located in the State to which the forest products derived from the harvesting were delivered.

LD 1561 An Act To Amend the Maine Land Use Planning Commission Laws and Enhance the Economic Vitality of Neighboring Communities Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CARSON B DUNPHY M	ONTP OTP-AM	

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

This bill amends the laws governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission by requiring the commission to coordinate with neighboring municipalities by engaging in regional land use planning and directing future development into the communities where possible and consistent with municipal comprehensive land use plans. In order to ensure that the commission has current, critical data necessary for regional planning, the bill directs the commission to conduct a land use structure inventory by July 1, 2020. The bill also changes the appointment process for members of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to ensure that a statewide perspective and relevant areas of expertise are represented on the commission.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-183)

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, changes the title of the bill and changes the bill into a resolve requiring the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry on or before January 15, 2020 regarding the commission's adoption of rules relating to the adjacency principle and subdivision standards for land use districts. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 1574 An Act To Continue Authorization of Seaplane Landings on Katahdin Lake ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINGS B DILL J	ONTP	

This bill allows a seaplane to land on and take off from Katahdin Lake in Baxter State Park.

LD 1590 An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to Harness Racing CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAREAN D		

This bill amends the harness racing laws in the following ways.

1. It requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop a biennial operating budget for the State Harness Racing Commission with input from the commission that allows for expenditures for discretionary activities by the commission during the biennium if the commission determines the activities are in the best interest of the harness racing industry.
2. It protects the Harness Racing Promotional Fund from being charged for indirect costs under a departmental indirect cost allocation plan.
3. It requires a harness racing license application of a pari-mutuel betting licensee who leases a racing plant to list financial and corporate information of the owner of the real estate.
4. It requires the commission, when assigning race dates to licensees, to consider the development of revenues from interstate simulcasting, the ability to offer night racing and the ability to maintain ownership of or a leasehold on facilities.
5. It changes the definition of "commercial track" for regions with a population of 300,000 or more and with a