

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
129<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL AND SECOND REGULAR SESSIONS



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION,  
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT  
AND BUSINESS**

November 2020

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**STAFF:**

SAMUEL SENFT, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/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 Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business***

This bill establishes the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute and a related steering committee to advise the Legislature on matters related to workforce training, research and development, student debt and economic advancement in the State. The bill directs the Legislature, through the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters, to contract with the University of Maine System to establish the steering committee. The bill describes the eight required steering committee members and establishes that each member serves a two-year term and that the steering committee will meet at least four times per year.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-467)**

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill to reallocate the language establishing the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute from the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A to Title 5. It changes the membership of the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute Steering Committee. It also adds an appropriations and allocations section. This amendment was adopted in the First Regular Session but removed from the bill when it was recommitted to committee during the Second Regular Session.

**Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-341)**

This amendment removes the requirement that the Legislature contract with the University of Maine System for the establishment and maintenance of the institute and removes the appropriation of associated funding. The amendment also revises the process of appointing steering committee members. This amendment was adopted in the First Regular Session but removed from the bill when it was recommitted to committee during the Second Regular Session.

This bill, which had not yet been voted by committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

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

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

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill establishes the Big Moose Mountain Regional Development Authority to carry out the State's public-interest objectives related to the ski area and resort and other related recreational facilities on Big Moose Mountain and to create economic development benefits in the area of Big Moose Mountain.

**LD 1584 An Act To Attract, Build and Retain an Early Childhood Education Workforce through Increased Training, Education and Career Pathways CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FECTEUR POULIOTM	OTP-AM ONTP	H-464

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

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature on the Special Appropriations table by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Labor jointly to develop and implement an early childhood educators' workforce support program to recruit and retain early childhood educators working with children up to five years of age. Components of the program include:

1. Expansion of educational programs at career and technical education centers and financial support of those programs;
2. Comprehensive scholarships for persons taking classes toward the attainment of an early childhood education credential or an associate or bachelor's degree that allow the persons to graduate without student debt as long as the persons agree to work for a year with an approved employer;
3. An increased number of apprenticeships; and
4. Salary supplements awarded to individuals who provide child care or who are early childhood educators. The amount of the supplement is based on the level of education and experience of the individual and other factors.

This bill also provides funding to carry out the program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-464)**

This amendment requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to collect and review early childhood educators' workforce data and, on a biennial basis, conduct a review of the adequacy of the pathways to early childhood education careers. It requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Labor to collaborate with local adult education providers of school administrative units, apprenticeship sponsors, career and technical education programs, the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System to create articulation agreements between these entities for the transfer of credits for course work related to early childhood education and to facilitate enrollment in courses that lead to the issuance of a postsecondary degree by a degree-granting institution. It also requires the commissioners to collaborate with these same entities to provide support for individuals, including immigrants and other populations lacking experience in Maine's workforce, who require foundational skills development to enter and succeed in early childhood education courses, including but not limited to, English as a second language, literacy, numeracy and employability skills.

This bill was again carried over, still on the Special Appropriations Table, to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

**LD 1690     An Act To Certify and Promote Products That Are Made in Maine**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
JACKSONT

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This bill was carried over in committee from the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1322.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.