

# 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 INNOVATION,  
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT  
AND BUSINESS**

August 2019

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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 Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business***

Legislature having jurisdiction over business, research and economic development matters to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over professional licensing of health care professions matters.

**LD 1821      Resolve, To Address the Population Shortage in Rural Maine**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STEWART T		

This resolve directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to work with the Northern Border Regional Commission in the establishment of a program to recruit working families to relocate to rural areas of the State.

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

**LD 1833      An Act Establishing a Review Process for Measures with a Potential Economic Impact and Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Develop a Strategic Economic Plan**

**Died On Adjournment**

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

This bill was not referred to committee.

This bill establishes a process in statute by which the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business reviews all legislative measures with potential economic impact. The bill authorizes the committee to report out legislation regarding this provision in the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature. This provision is repealed 90 days following the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

The bill also directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to develop a strategic plan to recommend strategies for increased economic prosperity in the State. The bill establishes goals for the plan and directs the department to include an analysis of gaps in funding and policy in the plan. The bill requires that the department establish a steering committee and a work team to guide the development of the plan. The bill requires the department to report on the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business and provides the committee permission to report out related legislation in the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

**LD 1835      An Act To Authorize Early Payment of Anticipated Funds to the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund**

**PUBLIC 356 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T	OTP-AM	S-271

This bill requires the State Tax Assessor, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or at the direction of the Governor, to transfer anticipated funds to the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund prior to the July 31, 2019 payment date.

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

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-271)**

This amendment changes the final payment date for which funds may be advanced to July 31, 2020 from July 31, 2019. The amendment adds language clarifying that, upon approval, the assessor is required to both deposit funds into the contingent account and pay those funds into the fund. The amendment also requires approval by the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services for early transfers and payments recommended by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development. The amendment adds language clarifying that any difference between the amount advanced and the amount finally determined to be due, in the event of an underpayment, must be added to the final payment due by July 31, 2020, or, in the event of an overpayment, must be deducted from the final payment due by July 31, 2021. The amendment repeals the temporary provision on August 1, 2021.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public law 2019, chapter 356 requires the State Tax Assessor, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development or at the direction of the Governor, to transfer anticipated funds to the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund prior to the July 31, 2020 payment date. It states that upon approval, the assessor is required to both deposit funds into the contingent account and pay those funds into the fund. It requires approval by the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services for early transfers and payments recommended by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development. It states that any difference between the amount advanced and the amount finally determined to be due, in the event of an underpayment, must be added to the final payment due by July 31, 2020, or, in the event of an overpayment, must be deducted from the final payment due by July 31, 2021.

Public law 2019, chapter 356 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 18, 2019.

**LD 1841      Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation To Create a Working Group To Study Barriers to Credentialing**

**RESOLVE 79**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This resolve was not referred to committee.

This resolve directs the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to create a working group to study credentialing skilled individuals with foreign credentials and those with licenses in other states. The working group consists of eight to ten persons representing licensing boards and professional organizations served by the licensing boards in professions in the State for which there is a need for and an opportunity to credential skilled individuals with foreign credentials and those with out-of-state licenses. The working group is required to submit its report along with any recommendations and suggested legislation to the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation. The commissioner is required to submit the report with any recommendations and suggested legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business. The committee is permitted to report out a bill relating to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. In the event the working group or the commissioner requires additional time to complete the work, the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business may extend the reporting deadline.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Resolve 2019, chapter 79 directs the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to create a working