

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND  
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

November 2020

**STAFF:**

MAUREEN S. DAWSON, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW  
5 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1635  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/ofpr>

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# 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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

Community Development, to be matched by at least \$50,000,000 in private and other funds.

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

**LD 1836 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Infrastructure, Economic Development, Workforce Development and Energy and Environment Investment**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BREEN C	OTP-AM	S-354
GATTINE D	OTP-AM	

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

Part A provides a bond issue in the amount of \$105,000,000. Funds in the amount of \$100,000,000 will be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$137,000,000 per year in federal and other funds. Funds in the amount of \$4,000,000 will be used for a competitive grant program that matches local funding for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings in order to improve fish and wildlife habitats and to allow communities to better prepare for extreme storms and floods. Funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 will be used to complete the renovation of a wharf and bulkhead at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland to bring the wharf back into operation for a fishing vessel berthing resource to support marine research at sea, for commercial fishing access and for continued long-term marine job development.

Part B provides a bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, to be used to invest in community broadband infrastructure, economic development and job creation.

Part C provides a bond issue, in the amount of \$19,000,000, to be used to invest in Maine Community College training, in child care services, in Maine Army National Guard readiness centers and support facilities and in career and technical education centers.

Part D provides a bond issue, in the amount of \$65,000,000, to be used to protect Maine's environment by investing in land conservation, water access, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation opportunities, including hunting and fishing, farmland and working waterfronts and by supporting environmental clean-up efforts and promotion of renewable energy projects through the Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program established in Part E.

Part E establishes the Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program within the Efficiency Maine Trust to support municipalities and municipally authorized citizen committees and school administrative units across the State in reducing energy costs, reducing carbon emissions, facilitating the development of renewable

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-354)**

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It makes the following changes to the bill.

1. It amends Part B to allow biomedical research institutions to apply for bond proceeds and adds market development of life sciences products as an area within which a successful application must demonstrate potential for job creation and economic growth.

*Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

2. It amends Part D to reduce bond funds allocated to the Efficiency Maine Trust's Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program from \$15,000,000 to \$10,000,000 and allocates \$5,000,000 to the trust's Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund to recapitalize that fund. It also changes the language regarding disbursement of bond proceeds to provide that payment from bond proceeds for acquisitions to community conservation projects may be made directly to cooperating entities and removes the requirement that the Land for Maine's Future Board give preference to acquisitions that achieve benefits for multiple towns and address regional conservation needs. It also includes community conservation projects in the expenditures for which bond funds must be matched with at least \$30,000,000 in public and private contributions.

3. It amends Part E to allow Maine Efficiency Trust to award grant funding under the Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program for a solar array that is not directly owned by a municipality or school administrative unit if, pursuant to an agreement between the owner of the solar array and a municipality or school administrative unit, the sole user of the energy produced by the solar array is the municipality or school administrative unit that entered into the agreement.

4. It adds Part F, which requires the ConnectME Authority to establish a process to ensure state funds made available pursuant to the bond issue under Part B are used to build broadband Internet service in areas of the State that do not meet the goals for broadband service described under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 9202-A.

5. It adds Part G, which allows proceeds of the Land for Maine's Future Fund to be spent on property that is determined by the Land for Maine's Future Board to be for a community conservation project, defines "community conservation project," includes Maine Indian tribes under the definition of "cooperative entities" and sets helping the State's natural ecosystems, wildlife and natural resource-based economies adapt to a changing climate as a priority of the board in making land acquisitions.

**Committee Amendment "B" (S-355)**

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, strikes out Parts B to E.

This bill was carried over in the Senate to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

<b>LD 1847</b>	<b>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Protection and Enhancement of Water Quality, Support of Environmental Clean-up Efforts and Provision of Loans for the Residential Purchase of High-performance Air Source Heat Pumps</b>	<b>Enactment Failed</b>
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BREEN C		

This bill, which was introduced and finally disposed of during the First Special Session of the 129th Legislature, was not referred to committee.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue of \$15,000,000 to be used as follows:

1. To provide \$5,000,000 for state match on federal superfund sites, uncontrolled hazardous substance site investigation and remediation and response actions at sites contaminated with emerging pollutants, such as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, at dry cleaner sites and at brownfield sites;