

# 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 CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

November 2020

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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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety*

**LD 1756 An Act To Improve Public Safety through Coordinated Reentry of Prisoners into the Community**

**CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>               | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TALBOT ROSS R<br>DESCHAMBAULT S | OTP-AM                  | H-580                     |

This bill was passed to be enacted by the Legislature and then held by the Governor at the end of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. During the Second Regular Session, this bill was recalled from the Governor's desk and recommitted to committee.

This bill requires the Commissioner of Corrections to enter into agreements with other state agencies to ensure that prisoners and juvenile clients receive coordinated assistance with reentry and receive services and benefits upon release into the community. It also authorizes the commissioner to enter into similar agreements with federal agencies and community agencies.

Under current law, the amount of time a prisoner must serve prior to being transferred to supervised community confinement is based on the term of imprisonment. The bill removes that distinction.

The bill removes a provision of law providing that if the commissioner determines that the average statewide probation case load is no more than 90 probationers to one probation officer, a prisoner may be transferred to supervised community confinement if the prisoner has no more than two years remaining on the term of imprisonment or unsuspended portion of a split sentence.

Under current law, the commissioner may transfer any client from one correctional or detention facility or program to another. The bill adds sober houses, transitional housing and reentry programs to the list of facilities.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-580)**

This amendment updates the language in the bill to reflect changes made in law and adds a requirement that the Department of Corrections establish a steering committee focused on assessing and examining the supervised community confinement program and reentry policies, practices and procedures. The 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 the committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

**LD 1873 An Act To Improve Response to Sudden Cardiac Arrest by Requiring Training in the Delivery of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Methods by Telecommunications Technology**

**Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>     | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MARTIN D<br>JACKSON T |                         |                           |

This bill defines "emergency services telecommunicator" and requires all emergency services telecommunicators that provide dispatch for calls involving emergency medical conditions to be trained in the delivery of cardiopulmonary resuscitation methods by telecommunications technology. The training must incorporate

*Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety*

recognition protocols for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction and provide for continuing education. The bill requires the Department of Public Safety and the Emergency Services Communication Bureau within the Public Utilities Commission to establish a procedure to monitor compliance and allows the department to sanction noncompliance by adjusting funding.

**LD 1890     An Act To Improve Prisoner Transport Safety by Specifically Authorizing Transport of Prisoners by Transport Officers** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>         | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| FARNSWORTH D<br>SANBORN H |                         |                           |

This bill amends the civil procedure laws governing the transporting of prisoners to specifically authorize the transport of a prisoner by transport officers when a court has issued a writ of habeas corpus requiring that prisoner to be brought before the court.

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

**LD 1910     An Act Establishing That the Commissioner of Public Safety Is a Law Enforcement Officer If the Commissioner Is Certified as a Law Enforcement Officer** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DESCHAMBAULT S    |                         |                           |

This bill amends the definition of "law enforcement officer" in the laws governing the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to establish that the Commissioner of Public Safety is a law enforcement officer in the employ of the Department of Public Safety if the commissioner is certified as a law enforcement officer and completes in-service training in order to maintain that certification. The bill also exempts the commissioner from certain training standards and policy development requirements.

This bill, which had been voted (OTP-A/ONTP) but not yet reported out of committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.

**LD 1941     An Act To Reform Corrections Officer Compensation in Maine** **CARRIED OVER**

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u>   | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| PLUECKER B<br>DOW D |                         |                           |

This bill requires the rate of pay for corrections officers working in state correctional facilities, including the Long Creek Youth Development Center, to equal the rate of pay for law enforcement officers in the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police.

This bill which had been voted (OTP-A/ONTP) but not yet reported out of committee, was carried over in committee to any special session of the 129th Legislature by joint order, S.P. 788.