

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND HOUSING

December 2021

STAFF:

STEVEN LANGLIN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
COLLEEN MCCARTHY REID, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

MEMBERS:

SEN. CRAIG V. HICKMAN, CHAIR*
SEN. DAVID R. MIRAMANT
SEN. STACEY K. GUERIN
SEN. JOSEPH E. RAFFERTY, JR.*

REP. MICHAEL A. SYLVESTER,
REP. SCOTT W. CUDDY
REP. SARAH PEBWORTH
REP. TRACI GERE
REP. AMY J. ROEDER
REP. RICHARD T. BRADSTREET
REP. JOSHUA MORRIS
REP. DWAYNE W. PRESCOTT
REP. GARY A. DRINKWATER
REP. SOPHIA B. WARREN

*Committee chair for a portion of the session

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING

LD 99 An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in the Fossil Fuel Industry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 231 requires the State to divest itself of assets invested in the fossil fuel industry in accordance with sound investment criteria and consistent with fiduciary obligations. It requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to post quarterly on its website information detailing all its holdings in the public market and private equity investments. It also requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System, beginning January 1, 2022 and annually thereafter, to issue a report reviewing its environmental, social and governance investment policy. The Treasurer of State and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System shall report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters by January 1, 2023, 2024 and 2025 regarding the progress of divestment.

LD 137 An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 67 makes changes to the laws governing an employee who is a firefighter or emergency medical services person.

Current law requires that, in order to avoid being subject to discharge or discipline for failure to report for work or being absent when responding to an emergency, an employee who is also a firefighter or emergency medical services person must have presented to the employer within 30 days of employment a copy of a fire department or emergency medical services provider policy that specifies the circumstances under which the employee is needed to respond to an emergency and that affirms that the employee will be released as soon as practicable.

Public Law 2021, chapter 67 removes the requirement that the employee present the copy within 30 days of employment and instead requires that the employee present the copy within 30 days of notifying the employer of the employee's status as a firefighter or emergency medical services person.

Public Law 2021, chapter 67 also corrects a technical error in current law.

LD 189 An Act To Permit All Public Employers To Implement Payroll Deductions for Disability and Life Insurance Policies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 102 authorizes a public employer to deduct payroll deductions designated in writing by a public employee for disability insurance and life insurance offered in

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING

conjunction with the employee's membership in an employee organization recognized by the employer or designated by a collective bargaining agreement.

LD 190 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement Benefit Reductions for Corrections Officers Currently Included in the 1998 Special Plan

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 401 requires that service retirement benefits for employees of the Department of Corrections included in the 1998 Special Plan as of October 18, 2021 who receive a direct care stipend pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement and who were employed prior to January 1, 2000 be computed on the same basis as benefits for other members under the plan are computed; creditable service is included regardless of when that service was earned.

LD 213 An Act To Require Coverage for Female Firefighters Facing Reproductive System Cancer

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 325 adds gynecologic cancer to the definition of "cancer" so that there is also a rebuttable presumption under Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 for a firefighter who contracts gynecologic cancer. Under the current law, there is a rebuttable presumption that a firefighter who has contracted kidney cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, colon cancer, leukemia, brain cancer, bladder cancer, multiple myeloma, prostate cancer, testicular cancer or breast cancer has contracted the cancer as a result of that firefighter's employment.

LD 248 An Act Regarding the Board of Occupational Safety and Health

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 103 allows the Board of Occupational Safety and Health the authority to adopt emergency rules.

LD 275 An Act To Amend the Retirement Laws Pertaining to Certain Educational Technicians

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 6 provides an exception to mandatory membership in the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program for employees filling certain educational technician positions who do not introduce new learning plans and supervise small groups of students in community-based programs and are therefore not required by statute to be certified.