

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

October 2023

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STATE OF MAINE
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**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILLS AND
SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS**

This *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* provides the disposition of all LDs and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131st Maine Legislature. Please note that all LDs and proposed amendments may be found through the Legislature’s webpage, and each includes a summary of what the bill or amendment proposed.

The *Legislative Digest of Bills and Summaries of Enacted Laws* is arranged alphabetically by committee. Within each committee section is a subject index of all LDs considered by that committee as well as a digest of the LDs, arranged by LD number. Also included are enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed. Brief analyst notes on certain LDs are also included: a committee digest will indicate if additional notes are provided for an LD. These notes add information staff found useful and may provide useful information to users of this *Digest*; please note that most LDs do not have a note and lack of a note should not be interpreted as having any significance. A separate section of the *Digest* provides a digest of the relatively few LDs that were not referred to a committee or reported from a committee as a committee bill; enacted law summaries of the LDs enacted or finally passed are provided. Finally, an appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

The final disposition of each LD is noted in the relevant summary digest and index. 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 and First Special Sessions of the 131st Legislature is Thursday, June 29, 2023 and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, respectively. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

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LD 32 An Act to Update the Maine State Grant Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 23 updates the Maine State Grant Program as a result of recently enacted federal legislation pertaining to free application for federal student aid simplification and associated terminology. It also removes the term "expected family contribution" from the governing laws and replaces it with "student aid index."

LD 46 An Act to Amend the Statutory Balance Limit on the Finance Authority of Maine's Loan Insurance Reserves

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 422 increases the cap on the combined amount that the Finance Authority of Maine may have in its Loan Insurance Reserve and Finance Authority of Maine Mortgage Insurance Fund from \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000. Below that cap a transfer of up to \$1,000,000 from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund is allowed under certain circumstances.

LD 103 Resolve, Directing the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council to Study Incentives for the Provision of Child Care in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 28 directs the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council to identify and consider certain issues related to the provision of child care for parents working in this State, identify and consider mechanisms for overcoming identified obstacles, identify entities already conducting work related to those issues and submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business summarizing its findings no later than January 15, 2024. The Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

LD 150 An Act to Allow Incentive Continuity Following a Catastrophic Occurrence Under the Pine Tree Development Zone and Major Food Processing and Manufacturing Facility Expansion Tax Credit Programs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 173 allows a company to subtract the reduction in its base level of employment established for an incentive program related to the locations that were affected by a catastrophic occurrence, lowering the base level of employment the company needs to maintain

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

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due to the catastrophic occurrence. It affects the Pine Tree Development Zone program and the tax credit for major food processing and manufacturing facility expansion.

LD 170 An Act to Clarify the Authority of the Director of the Real Estate Commission to Investigate Complaints

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 114 updates existing law to clarify that the director of the Real Estate Commission must, upon receipt of a written complaint, review the complaint to determine whether the complaint describes a violation of law or rule that is within the authority of the commission to enforce. If the director determines that a complaint does not describe a violation of law or rule that is within the authority of the commission to enforce, the director must notify the person who submitted the complaint of that determination. If the director determines that the complaint does describe a violation of law or rule that is within the authority of the commission to enforce, the director must investigate the actions described in the complaint and take appropriate actions.

LD 184 An Act to Provide for the 2023 and 2024 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 5 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt private activity bonds for calendar years 2023 and 2024 among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds.

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 5 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 30, 2023.

LD 203 Resolve, to Create a Working Group to Study Motor Vehicle Dealer Display Area and Licensing Requirements

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 19 directs the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles to convene a working group to study motor vehicle dealer display area regulations and licensing requirements, establishes the membership and duties of the working group and requires the bureau to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by January 15, 2024.