

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 HEALTH COVERAGE,
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

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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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1. It provides the Superintendent of Financial Institutions with the authority to reduce assessments by rule or order. Current law only allows the Bureau of Financial Institutions to raise assessments.
2. It clarifies that the superintendent may suspend or postpone action on an application submitted to the bureau in the event that the bureau has no present capacity to supervise the applicant based on a lack of personnel or tools to adequately supervise certain emerging business models in a manner that protects the public and ensures the safety and soundness of the institution.
3. It amends the processes for liquidations of financial institutions to provide that, like standard mergers, fiduciary accounts are automatically transferred to the surviving institution in the event of a merger conducted as part of a liquidation, thus removing the need for such accounts to be transferred by court processes or obtaining consent of account beneficiaries.
4. It clarifies that an uninsured bank must be engaged in the business of banking in order to be organized under the laws governing investor-owned institutions.
5. It eliminates the requirement in current law that all financial institutions must post a copy of their financial statements in their offices. Instead, it requires a federally insured financial institution to post a notice in its main office that this information is available to the public upon request, except that limited purpose banks must continue to post a copy of their financial statements in their offices.

LD 121 An Act to Expand Health Insurance Coverage to Certain State Employees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Beginning November 1, 2023, Public Law 2023, chapter 451 requires the State to pay its share of the individual premium for the state employee health insurance plan for a session-only employee of the Legislature regardless of whether the employee is in active work status unless the session-only employee has health coverage under another plan. The law also clarifies that the payment of premiums is not intended to provide an incentive for employees to artificially delay notice of resignation.

LD 224 An Act to Strengthen Maine's Health Care Workforce by Preventing Discrimination by Requiring Maintenance of Certification for Insurance Reimbursement

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 40 prohibits health insurance carriers from conditioning reimbursement, provider network or credentialing status for a physician, hospital or outpatient clinical practice on a physician's, hospital's or outpatient clinical practice's participation in a maintenance of certification program.

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The requirements of Public Law 2023, chapter 40 are repealed on April 1, 2029.

LD 263 An Act to Ensure Access to Family Planning Services

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 343 makes changes to the certificate of need process used by the Department of Health and Human Services when reviewing any transfer of ownership or control of a health care facility or any new health care facility.

1. It provides that the Commissioner of Health and Human Services may approve the transaction only if the commissioner determines that the project will not reduce access to any family planning services, including abortion care, except that the commissioner may approve a project on the basis that the project is only economically and financially feasible if an obstetrical care service is closed or reduced in capacity and, after considering all reasonable alternatives, that access to other health care services will be substantially reduced if the project is not approved.
2. It requires that the written health impact assessment submitted by the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention must include without limitation an assessment of the impact on access to family planning services, including abortion care.
3. It authorizes the commissioner to review and enforce compliance with the approval criterion regarding access to any family planning services even after the 3-year time frame for other subsequent reviews has expired.

LD 267 An Act to Require Private Insurance Coverage for Donor Breast Milk

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 229 requires state-regulated health insurance plans to provide coverage for donor breast milk for an infant covered under the health plan if a licensed physician, physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse signs an order stating that the infant is medically or physically unable to receive maternal breast milk or participate in breastfeeding or the infant's parent is medically or physically unable to produce maternal breast milk in quantities sufficient for the infant and the infant has a serious medical condition for which donor breast milk is medically necessary.

The requirements of the law apply to individual and group health insurance plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2024.