

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 CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

October 2023

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STAFF:

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

*Committee member for a portion of the session

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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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4. It requires the Department of Corrections to submit an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters on the status of the identification and development of 2 small, secure, therapeutic residences for youths for the purpose of providing detention and confinement.

LD 207 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Public Safety to Establish a Stakeholder Group to Examine the Responsibilities, Fees and Duties of the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 29 directs the Commissioner of Public Safety to convene a stakeholder group to examine the responsibilities, fees and duties of the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board. The commissioner is required to invite the participation of several commissioners of relevant departments and agencies or their designees, as well as representatives from several trade associations and others. On or before February 15, 2024, the commissioner must submit a report that includes the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, which is authorized to submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature on the subject matter of the report.

LD 229 An Act to Compensate Tribal Governments for Basic Training for a Law Enforcement Officer Hired by Another Government Agency

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 242 adds tribal governments and full-time law enforcement officers trained at the Indian police academy at the federal law enforcement training center to the formula and reimbursement rates that provide that whenever a full time law enforcement officer trained at a police academy at the expense of a particular government entity, which is defined to include tribal governments, is subsequently hired by another governmental entity as a full-time law enforcement officer within 5 years after graduation from the police academy, the hiring governmental entity must reimburse the paying governmental entity.

LD 244 Resolve, Directing Maine Emergency Medical Services to Convene a Stakeholder Group to Explore Emergency Medical Services Career Pathways and Educational Opportunities in the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 15 directs the Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services to convene a stakeholder group to explore career pathways and educational opportunities for emergency medical services providers in the State. Maine Emergency Medical Services must

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submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 15, 2024 that outlines the activities of the stakeholder group and includes any recommendations or proposed legislation. The committee may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

LD 405 An Act Regarding False Public Alarms or Reports and Aggravated False Public Alarms or Reports

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 430 establishes the new Class C crime of aggravated false public alarm or report, which occurs when the elements of the existing crime of false public alarm or report are met and the violation causes the evacuation, shutdown or lockdown of a building, school, public square or park, place of assembly or public transportation facility. It also amends the crime of false public alarm or report by adding emergency communications centers, enhanced 9-1-1 services or any other emergency services personnel to the list of organizations and persons to which providing false information may constitute that crime.

LD 428 An Act to Reclassify Certain Offenses Under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 431 makes the following changes to penalties for violating inland fisheries and wildlife laws.

1. It limits the potential penalty for committing the following Class E crimes to only a fine.
 - A. Hunting without a license.
 - B. Most instances of unlawful use or possession of implement or aids.
 - C. Hunting, trapping, molesting or harassing a bear or releasing a dog or dogs for the purpose of hunting bears or training dogs to hunt bear.
 - D. Certain violations made by the holder of a live bait retailer's license.
 - E. Certain violations made by the holder of a baitfish wholesaler's license.
 - F. Certain violations made by the holder of a smelt wholesale dealer's license.
2. It changes the following violations from Class E crimes to civil violations.
 - G. A resident or nonresident under 16 years of age hunting without a junior hunting license.