

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

June 2024

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JANET STOCCO, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
ELIAS MURPHY, 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

STATE OF MAINE

131ST LEGISLATURE
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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 Second Regular Session 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 Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature is Friday, August 9, 2024. 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 JUDICIARY

LD 91 An Act to Adopt the National 2022 Amendments to the Uniform Commercial Code

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 669 updates the Uniform Commercial Code with the 2022 version approved by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, except the provisions related to electronic money, including a new uniform Article 12 governing controllable electronic records. The Legislature accepts the explanatory notes and Uniform Comments as prepared by the uniform law commissioners as part of the 2022 amendments, except the explanatory notes and Uniform Comments for sections of the Uniform Commercial Code that have not been amended by this law.

Public Law 2023, chapter 669 takes effect July 1, 2025.

LD 279 An Act to Protect Against Discrimination by Public Entities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 489 amends the Maine Human Rights Act to prohibit a public entity from discriminating against an individual, excluding an individual from participation in a service, program or activity of that public entity or otherwise denying to an individual the benefits of a service, program or activity of that public entity by reason of the individual's race or color, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry or national origin. Like a place of public accommodation, however, a public entity is not required to permit an individual to participate in the public entity's services, programs or activities if that individual poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be eliminated by a modification of the public entity's policies, practices or procedures or by the provision of auxiliary aids or services. Public Law 2023, chapter 489 also establishes, through June 14, 2025, both a limited-period Assistant Attorney General Position and a limited-period Correctional Care and Treatment Worker position in the Department of Corrections.

Public Law 2023, chapter 489 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2023 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2023, chapter 489 became law without the Governor's signature on January 7, 2024.

LD 653 An Act to Establish the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services and Establish Public Defender Offices for Aroostook, Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 558 changes the name of the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services in order to more clearly describe