

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

October 2023

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



**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.

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### **LD 269 An Act to Designate Granitic Pegmatite as the Maine State Rock**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 15 establishes granitic pegmatite as the official state rock.

### **LD 292 An Act to Establish Maine Needham Day**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 10 establishes the last Saturday in September as Maine Needham Day and requires the Governor to issue an annual proclamation recognizing the needham's place in the State's culture and culinary traditions.

### **LD 344 An Act to Establish Maine Alewife Day**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 11 designates the Saturday before Memorial Day as Maine Alewife Day and requires the Governor issue an annual proclamation encouraging observation of this day.

### **LD 354 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Use of Licensed Professional Engineers on Certain Public Works Projects**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 174 repeals and replaces the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 1254. It exempts certain public works construction projects that otherwise require the services of a licensed professional engineer from the need for a professional engineer if: an authorized representative of a department of this State or any of this State's political subdivisions or any county, city, town, township or plantation engaged in the construction of the public works project issues a written determination that the life, health and property of the public will be adequately protected without the services of a licensed professional engineer; and the contemplated expenditure for the completed project does not exceed \$250,000. For purposes of issuing the written determination, the Director of the Bureau of General Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services is the authorized representative of a department of this State engaged in public works that constitute public improvements under Title 5, chapter 153. The law also clarifies that a department of this State or any of this State's political subdivisions or any county, city, town, township or plantation may still require the services of a licensed professional engineer for any public works project that meets both conditions.