

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

June 2024

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STATE OF MAINE

131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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.

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LD 86 An Act to Restore the Former State of Maine Flag

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 487 changes the current State of Maine flag to the flag that was in use before 1909, subject to design approval by the Secretary of State and a referendum vote in November, 2024. The flag must be buff, charged with the emblem of the State, a pine tree proper, in the center, and the North Star, a mullet of five points, in blue in the upper corner; the star to be equidistant from the hoist and the upper border of the flag, the distance from the two borders to the center of the star being equal to about one-quarter of the hoist, this distance and the size of the star being proportionate to the size of the flag.

Public Law 2023, chapter 487 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 487 became law without the Governor's signature on January 7, 2024.

LD 165 An Act to Increase the Governor's Salary

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 488 increases the Governor's annual salary from \$70,000 to \$125,000 beginning the first Wednesday of January 2027 and allows the Governor to receive a nontaxable expense account of \$40,000 annually.

Public Law 2023, chapter 488 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 488 became law without the Governor's signature on January 7, 2024.

LD 380 An Act to Transfer the Monhegan Water Company to Monhegan Plantation and to Repeal the Monhegan Water Company Charter

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 17 requires, upon approval by referendum of the voters of Monhegan Plantation, that the Monhegan Water Company transfer to Monhegan Plantation and Monhegan Plantation acquire from the Monhegan Water Company, all the assets, property, rights, privileges, obligations and liabilities of the Monhegan Water Company. Upon the transfer and acquisition, Monhegan Plantation is required to establish and operate the Monhegan Plantation water district and file paperwork with the office of the Secretary of State terminating the corporate existence of the Monhegan Water Company. The transfer and acquisition and the establishment and operation of the water district must occur before January 1, 2025 and is subject to the approval

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of the Public Utilities Commission. The law also repeals, effective January 1, 2025, the law that created the Monhegan Water Company, Private and Special Law 1913, chapter 35.

Private and Special Law 2023, chapter 17 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 29, 2024.

LD 794 An Act to Expand the Membership of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 656 increases the membership of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women from 17 members to 19 members and requires the Governor to appoint the two additional members, one member representing the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex or asexual persons and one member who is a person who has not attained 25 years of age.

LD 877 An Act to Increase Cybersecurity in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 681 requires the Chief Information Officer in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to establish and maintain two lists: a list of companies, including foreign adversaries, that pose a national security risk or a risk to the security and safety of persons of the United States; and a list of information and communications technology and services that pose a national security risk or a risk to the security and safety of persons of the United States. The lists must be published on the department's publicly accessible website and must be updated at least annually.

The Chief Information Officer must include on the lists companies and information and communications technology and services identified by statute, regulation or official guidance from appropriate federal agencies as posing a national security risk or a risk to the security and safety of persons of the United States. With certain exceptions, state agencies, local governmental entities, the judicial branch and the legislative branch are prohibited from contracting with a company or using, obtaining or purchasing information and communications technology and services included on the lists. Law enforcement agencies are exempt from the prohibitions in the law to the extent the prohibitions restrict law enforcement agencies' ability to protect the public or investigate criminal activity.

Public Law 2023, chapter 681 defines "foreign adversary" as a foreign government or foreign nongovernment person that the United States Secretary of Commerce has determined has engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of persons of the United States. It also requires a person that submits a bid for a contract with the State for goods or services to certify that the person