

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

October 2023

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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 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
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

LD 384 An Act to Provide Emergency Aid to Dairy Farmers Affected by the Crisis in Production Costs

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 429 requires the transfer of \$500,000 on or before July 30, 2024 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Milk Commission program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to provide one-time volatility payments to Maine milk producers who produced milk and reported production information to the Maine Milk Commission in calendar year 2022 and are currently participating in the dairy stabilization program.

LD 390 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 25: Standards for Placing Wood into Stream Channels to Enhance Cold Water Fisheries Habitat, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 6 authorizes final adoption of Chapter 25: Standards for Placing Wood into Stream Channels to Enhance Cold Water Fisheries Habitat, a major substantive rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry, contingent on clarification of the effective date of the rule.

Resolve 2023, chapter 6 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 10, 2023.

LD 415 An Act to Allow Nonalcoholic Sparkling Cider to Be Sold in Maine

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 175 exempts nonalcoholic carbonated cider labeled as “sparkling cider” from the labeling requirements for cider.

LD 574 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Working Waterfront Covenants

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 70 allows certain nonprofit organizations whose purposes or powers include retaining or protecting coastal community values, culture or heritage, coastal habitat or real property that provides coastal water access to hold working waterfront covenants.