

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 EDUCATION
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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STATE OF MAINE
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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 EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LD 881 Resolve, Directing the University of Maine System to Study the Barriers to Use of Cross-Laminated Timber

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 27 directs the University of Maine System to study the barriers to more widespread use of cross-laminated timber and make recommendations for any professional training or other measures that would promote its use in construction. It also provides that the University of Maine System may accept funds for the purpose of carrying out this study and requires the University of Maine System to submit a report based on the study to certain joint standing committees of the Legislature by December 6, 2023. Those committees may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Resolve 2023, chapter 27 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 8, 2023.

LD 892 An Act to Improve School Safety and Preparedness Through Comprehensive Health and Safety and Emergency Management Planning

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 254 requires that a school comprehensive health and safety and emergency management plan approved by a school board meet nationally recognized practices and be developed collaboratively with appropriate stakeholders. It also requires that any steering committee formed by the school board as part of the plan update and approval process include a school employee designated by that employee's school as having oversight regarding school safety.

LD 921 An Act to Allow the Local Foods Fund for Public Schools to Be Used for Processed and Value-added Maine Food Products

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 101 removes the reference to and definition of “minimally processed foods” from current law governing which products may be purchased with the Local Foods Fund. Public Law 2023, chapter 101 allows the fund to be used to purchase processed and value-added food products produced in the State, which must meet standards set by the Department of Education. The department is directed to create standards for allowable processed and value-added Maine foods and provide guidance to school administrative units regarding which of those products are allowable for reimbursement.