

### 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 JUDICIARY

October 2023

**MEMBERS**:

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### **STAFF**:

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## **STATE OF MAINE**

 $131^{\text{st}} \text{ Legislature} \\ First Regular and First Special Sessions$ 



## 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.

CAPPIED OVER
CARRIED OVER
CON RES XXX
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCYenacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGEemergency 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 GOVERNORGovernor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAWsponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODYruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
NDEF PP indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT Xought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
<i>P&amp;S XXXchapter # of enacted private &amp; special law</i>
PUBLIC XXX
RESOLVE XXX
VETO SUSTAINED

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 JUDICIARY

# LD 962 An Act Regarding the Transfer of Seized Currency to the Federal Government for Criminal Asset Forfeiture

### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 91 eliminates the requirement that seized currency exceed a certain amount before a state governmental agency, county or municipality may enter into an agreement to transfer or refer the seized currency to a federal agency and replaces it with a requirement that seized currency only be transferred or referred to a federal agency in conjunction with a federal criminal case.

### LD 1001 An Act to Amend the Maine Human Rights Act Regarding Right-to-sue Letters

### ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 255 requires the Maine Human Rights Commission to issue a right-tosue letter to a complainant if the complainant submits a written request for a right-to-sue letter more than 180 days after the filing of a complaint and authorizes the commission to issue a rightto-sue letter if the complainant submits a written request less than 180 days after the filing of a complaint and the executive director of the commission determines both that the complainant has demonstrated good cause for submitting an early request and that it is probable that the commission will not be able to complete its investigation within 180 days of the filing of the complaint. The commission must end its investigation whenever the commission issues a right-to-sue letter to a complainant unless the executive director of the commission and legal counsel to the commission determine that proceeding with the investigation would achieve the purposes of the Maine Human Rights Act. If this determination is made, the commission must continue to investigate the complaint as if it had originally been filed by an employee of the commission.

### LD 1034 An Act to Require That Service of a Temporary Protection Order Be Attempted Within 48 Hours from the Issuance of the Order

### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 75 requires every law enforcement agency to adopt a written policy requiring that service of every temporary, emergency or interim protection from abuse order be attempted within 48 hours after the agency receives notice of that order from the court. Failure of the law enforcement agency to comply with the policy does not affect the validity of the service or the order.