

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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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.

**LD 1172 An Act to Reestablish Annual Reporting on Solid Waste in Maine**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 331 requires the Department of Environmental Protection, beginning in 2026, to annually instead of biennially report to the Legislature information on statewide generation of solid waste, statewide recycling rates and available disposal capacity for solid waste. It also clarifies the categories of information required to be included in the report and requires the department to take all actions necessary to modernize, streamline and improve the efficiency of the data collection, consolidation and reporting systems, procedures and processes it uses or intends to use to satisfy that reporting requirement.

**LD 1246 An Act to Include Endangered and Threatened Species Habitat in the Definition of "Significant Wildlife Habitat" Under the Natural Resources Protection Act**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 156 amends the Natural Resources Protection Act by adding to the definition of "significant wildlife habitat" habitat for state endangered and state threatened species that is within another protected natural resource area or that is wholly or partly contained within the boundaries of a proposed project site that requires approval from the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to the Natural Resources Protection Act, the site location of development laws or the laws on performance standards for quarries or for excavations for borrow, clay, topsoil or silt or that requires approval from the Maine Land Use Planning Commission pursuant to the Natural Resources Protection Act or, for subdivisions and nonresidential uses only, the commission's use regulation laws.

Public Law 2023, chapter 156 also requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt major substantive rules defining habitat for state endangered and state threatened species and the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt major substantive rules regarding the criteria used to determine whether an area is habitat for state endangered or state threatened species.

**LD 1363 An Act to Support Extraction of Common Minerals by Amending the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 398 amends the definition of "metallic mineral" in the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act and amends the definition of "mining" to exclude under specific circumstances the physical extraction, crushing, grinding, sorting, storage or heating of calcium carbonate or limestone to produce cement and the exploration for or physical extraction, crushing, grinding, sorting and storage of borrow, topsoil, clay or silt and gemstones, aggregate, dimension stone or other construction materials from a quarry. It also provides that a person engaging in