

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 JUDICIARY

June 2024

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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 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.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

circumstances, that an abstract of a name change order of an adult made confidential by the court not be transmitted to the State Bureau of Identification.

Part B of Public Law 2023, chapter 560 directs that, in response to a request for an adult’s public criminal history record information, a Maine criminal justice agency may disseminate information associated with each of the adult’s former and current legal names unless a name change was made confidential, in which case the agency may not disclose to any person that is not authorized to receive confidential criminal history record information the existence of the name change order or any criminal history record information associated with a legal name of the adult that is not included within the request.

Public Law 2023, chapter 560 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 25, 2024.

LD 870 An Act to Strengthen Freedom of Speech Protections by Enacting the Uniform Public Expression Protection Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 626 repeals the State’s law against strategic lawsuits against public participation, commonly known as the anti-SLAPP law, and replaces it with the Uniform Law Commission’s 2020 Uniform Public Expression Protection Act. The Legislature accepts the explanatory notes and Uniform Comments as prepared by the commission as part of the uniform law.

Public Law 2023, chapter 626 takes effect January 1, 2025.

LD 1490 An Act to Reduce Rental Housing Costs by Limiting Additional Fees at or Prior to the Commencement of Tenancy

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 594 amends the laws regarding rental property by adding definitions for “mandatory recurring fee”, “rent”, “utility service costs” and “optional recurring fee.” It also requires landlords to provide notice to tenants 45 days in advance when increasing a mandatory recurring fee; establishes a limit on the amount of money required to initiate a tenancy; adds certain fees, penalties and other charges to the statutory list of unenforceable provisions currently in law; and requires landlords to provide a total price disclosure statement to potential tenants or lessees prior to entering a lease or tenancy at will agreement.

Public Law 2023, chapter 594 takes effect January 1, 2025.