

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
LABOR AND HOUSING**

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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 LABOR AND HOUSING

LD 1762 An Act to Require the Bureau of Labor Standards to Create and Distribute in Workplaces a Veterans' Benefits and Services Poster

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 125 requires the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards to create and distribute a poster describing veterans' benefits and services in workplaces of more than 50 full-time equivalent employees.

LD 1803 An Act to Improve the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 205 amends the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 as follows.

1. It streamlines the process for individuals to obtain a predetermination they are an independent contractor.
2. It repeals the reporting requirement regarding levels of permanent impairment.
3. It establishes that, if the board fails to adjust rates or update the medical fee schedule, the reimbursement rates for medical services will be the amount established by the medical fee schedule in effect on the date the update is due.
4. It eliminates the requirement that the board adopt treatment protocols for specific injuries as part of a utilization review program.
5. It simplifies the calculation of the after-tax benefit owed during an incapacity period when an employee also receives certain pension and disability benefits.
6. It eliminates the provision stating that the insurer may seek reimbursement from an employer of a fine for a tardy filing of a first report of injury when the report was late because the employer did not give the insurer timely notice of the injury.
7. It clarifies that an insurer may seek reimbursement from its insured employer whose failure to provide information to the insurer is the cause of the insurer's failure to file or complete a form as required by law.
8. It consolidates the predetermination of independent contractor process for landowners and wood harvesters.
9. It requires the Workers' Compensation Board to post on its publicly accessible website information pertaining to independent contractor and construction subcontractor statements filed with the board.