

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

June 2024

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# STATE OF MAINE

131<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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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.

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promote smart growth in high-use corridors and to propose a plan for technical assistance grants to municipalities. The law requires the Director of the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, no later than January 15, 2025, to submit a report to the joint standing and joint select committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters regarding the working group's findings and recommendations. A joint standing or joint select committee that receives the report may submit legislation related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

### **LD 1721 Resolve, to Establish a Plan to Provide Transitional Housing and to Support the Growth of Maine's Workforce**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 136 directs the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to propose a plan to provide transitional housing and support services to persons seeking federal work permits and submit a report to the joint standing committee or the joint select committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters no later than January 15, 2025.

### **LD 2158 Resolve, to Improve the Housing Voucher System and Reduce the Number of Voucher Expirations**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 159 directs the Maine State Housing Authority to convene a stakeholder group to gather information about the use of housing vouchers and income-based rental assistance and consider ways to maximize the use of housing vouchers by outlining the process for local housing authorities to request fair market rent waivers from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, making changes to the rules governing the expiration of housing vouchers and the area of the State in which a housing voucher can be used and educating landlords to increase the number of landlords who accept tenants who use housing vouchers or other income-based rental assistance. The authority is directed to submit a report to the joint standing or joint select committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters by January 15, 2025.

### **LD 2169 Resolve, Directing the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to Recommend Proposals to Support the Development of Attainable Housing**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 162 directs the Director of the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to develop proposals for potential financial assistance programs to support the development of rental housing for persons making 80% to 150% of the area median income and programs to support homeownership by persons making 120% to 180% of the area median income. The office is required to seek input from entities familiar with programs that assist with the development of

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affordable housing as well as commercial real estate developers, the Maine State Chamber of Commerce and the Maine State Housing Authority. The office is directed to submit a report to the joint standing or joint select committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters by January 15, 2025.

### **LD 2209 An Act to Increase the Cap on Bonds Issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to Reflect Current Housing Production Needs in the State**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2023, chapter 559 increases the cap on mortgage purchase bonds authorized to be issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to align with current housing production needs in the State.

### **LD 2277 Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to Convey by Sale the Interests of the State in 3 Properties Located in Biddeford, Sanford and York**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2023, chapter 166 authorizes the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to convey the State's interests in three former courthouses located in the City of Biddeford, the City of Sanford and the Town of York, pursuant to the procedures set out in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 4754-A, for use as residential housing. If any of the three parcels comprising the state property is not transferred to the Maine State Housing Authority or a local public housing authority for residential housing under an option to purchase, however, the parcel is required to be sold using a competitive process via sale or auction.