

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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STATE OF MAINE

131ST 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.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

LD 2171 An Act Establishing Concurrent Jurisdiction with the Federal Courts in Certain Juvenile Matters

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2023, chapter 605 provides that the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court is concurrent with that of a federal court sitting in the State over proceedings involving a violation of federal law committed by a juvenile on a military installation of the United States Department of Defense if the United States Attorney for the District of Maine or the federal court waives exclusive jurisdiction and the violation is also a juvenile crime as defined in the Maine Juvenile Code.

LD 2192 Resolve, to Ensure That the Independent Commission to Investigate the Facts of the Tragedy in Lewiston Has Necessary Authority to Discharge Its Fact-finding Mission

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 129 authorizes the Independent Commission to Investigate the Facts of the Tragedy in Lewiston to request and receive records in the possession of any state agency or instrumentality that it determines are necessary to fulfill the independent commission's fact-finding mission, including confidential records and records not otherwise subject to public disclosure. It also authorizes the independent commission to issue subpoenas to compel the testimony of witnesses and the production of documents. In issuing subpoenas, the independent commission must comply with state law and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure. The testimony of subpoenaed witnesses must be taken under oath and in open session, except that the testimony may be taken in executive session upon a showing that confidentiality is necessary to the independent commission's fact-finding mission. The independent commission's subpoena authority is effective only until July 1, 2024. A detailed account of each subpoena issued must be included in the final report of the independent commission's work.

Resolve 2023, chapter 129 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective February 13, 2024.

LD 2202 Resolve, to Allow Ireland Farms, Inc. to Sue the State

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2023, chapter 184 authorizes Ireland Farms, Inc., in Presque Isle, Maine, which claims to have suffered damages in connection with actions taken by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, to sue the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for damages resulting from those actions and waives the State's defense of immunity under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 14, chapter 741.