

*Preti Flaherty's Maine Legislative Team is happy to provide the below report.*

On the evening of August 2, the 128th Maine Legislature adjourned sine die (Latin for “without day”) meaning the 1st Regular Session has been brought to a final close.

The session will long be remembered for the dramatic biennial budget showdown that culminated in the state’s first government shutdown in 26 years. The shutdown, which lasted just over 72 hours, delayed work beginning on the Special Appropriations Table and bond legislation. When the legislature returned on July 20 to take initial votes on the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee’s reports on these legislative documents, it meant a “veto day” would need to be scheduled after August 1.

There will be no shortage of work once the legislature returns in January to begin the 2nd Regular Session: in addition to bills that will be allowed in by Legislative Council, a number of bills were “carried over” on joint order until then. These included two substantial bond bills, one for research & development dollars and another for student debt relief.

The effective date of any legislation passed over the course of the session will be November 1, precisely 90 days after adjournment.