

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JUNE 1984

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 111th Legislature. The summaries are arranged alphabetically, and indexed separately by committee.



<u>LD</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	(Committee Report) <u>DISPOSITION</u>
1038	AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE EVALUA- TION OF HEARING LOSS UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT	Nadeau Clark, H. Hayes MacEachern	LV/WD(ACC.)

SUMMARY: LD 1038 was carried over from the 1st Regular Session anticipating action on the topic by the Speaker's Select Committee on Workers' Compensation but was withdrawn when that did not occur. The LD makes it easier to collect benefits under the occupational disease law by allowing benefits for hearing loss in higher sound frequencies, where hearing loss is most common.

1309	AN ACT TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES COLLECTIVE BARGAIN- ING LAW TO MAKE MANPOWER ISSUES A MANDATORY SUBJECT OF BARGAIN- ING	Beaulieu	LV/WD(ACC.)
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SUMMARY: The so-called "minimum manning" bill, a carryover from the 1st Session, makes manpower issues for firefighters a "working condition" and therefore a negotiable subject.

1810	AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A MAJNE LABOR RELATIONS LAW	Beaulieu	LV/WD(ACC.)
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SUMMARY: LD 1810 withdrawn before public hearing; See LD 2196 for summary of a similar bill which did go to hearing.

1824	AN ACT TO CLARIFY RETURN TO WORK PROVISIONS UNDER THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW	Clark, H. Pray Beaulieu McHenry	MAJ-OTP(ACC.) MIN-ONTP PL. 1983, C. 647
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SUMMARY: Under the workers' compensation laws an employer has a duty to transfer an employee who has suffered a compensable injury which disables him from performing his customary work to an available position that is suitable to the employee's physical condition. Some commissioners interpreted this section to mean that employers could place an injured employee in a position even if it conflicted with a negotiated contract containing seniority or other provisions. This bill states that exercise of this transfer authority shall not conflict with a collective bargaining agreement, thus protecting the seniority rights of other employees.