

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>
1935	AN ACT RELATING TO OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS	Swazey Dutremble Tammaro	A-OTP-A B-ONTF C-RECOMM D-LV/WD(ACC)

SUMMARY: The bill as amended by Committee Amendment "A" transfers authority to make rules on agricultural workers' safety and health from the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the Commissioner of Labor with the advice of the Commissioner of Agriculture. Any rules promulgated shall not apply to farms where there are no workers other than the farm operator and his immediate family. An A.G.'s opinion obtained to end confusion on the state's authority says that the federal OSHA has not totally preempted this topic and the state has authority to make rules on field sanitation because the federal government has not done so.

1946	AN ACT TO AMEND THE MINIMUM WAGE IN CONSTRUCTION LAWS	Clark, H. Mayo	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: In public works construction contracts of at least \$1000, rather than the current \$10,000 threshold, preference shall first be given to Maine residents. The bill includes political subdivisions as well as the State and changes the determination of the minimum payment rate to require payment of the "prevailing wage", re-defined as the hourly rate in union contracts.

1983	AN ACT RELATING TO JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT	Michael Gauvreau	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: The bill as drafted repeals the statute prohibiting employers from employing minors under age 16 to work in certain places. The sponsor intended the change to apply only to 14- and 15-year olds, not younger children, on the belief that there are many school drop-outs in this age group who need gainful employment.

2017	AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE LAW RELATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	Dutremble Tuttle Zirnkilton	OTP-A PL 1983, C. 650 (EMERG.)
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SUMMARY: The LD as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and House Amendment "A" makes 2 changes in the unemployment laws. The bill changes "no work may" to "work shall not be deemed suitable" in the section listing jobs a claimant may refuse without losing benefits. This was done for conformity with federal law. Also, it corrects an error made last year when the word "commissioner" was replaced with "deputy". Two other sections change references to the now defunct CETA program with references to JTPA, the replacement job training program.