

# 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>
2236	AN ACT TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM WAGE OVER A 3-YEAR PERIOD TO \$3.65	Conley Connolly Kelleher Hayes	MAJ-OTP (ACC.) MIN-ONTP H/S--ENACTED, NOT SIGNED BY GOV.

SUMMARY: Original LD 2236 was titled "An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage to \$3.55" and proposed to raise the minimum wage from \$3.35/hr. to \$3.55/hr., effective 90 days after the session ended. Senate Amendment "A" extended the effective date to January 1, 1985 and House Amendment "C" changed the wage amounts to \$3.45 starting January 1, 1985, \$3.55 starting January 1, 1986 and \$3.65 starting January 1, 1987.

2277	AN ACT REGARDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF INTEREST CHARGES ON OVERDUE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND	Tuttle Swazey Hayes Willey	OTP PL 1983, C. 733
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SUMMARY: The bill adds a provision to the unemployment compensation statute concerning overdue contributions. Employers are charged interest at the rate determined by the State Tax Assessor. This rate, which is set in December each year, shall stay in effect for the purposes of the unemployment laws for the full calendar year following the year in which it is determined. This enables the Bureau of Employment Security to send one mailing each year without the need to send out a second mailing if the interest rate is changed.

2278	AN ACT RELATING TO TIME OF PAYMENT UNDER THE MAINE LABOR LAW	McCollister	OTP-ND SEE LD 2422
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SUMMARY: See LD 2422.

2315	AN ACT CONCERNING BENEFITS UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT	Study bill	ND OF LD 2031 PL 1983, C. 750
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SUMMARY: LD 2031, the original study recommendation, freezes the maximum weekly unemployment benefit amount during 1985 and 1986 at the level in effect at the end of 1984 and also repeals the seasonality provisions of the unemployment laws. Following much changed financial projections by the Department of Labor, the Committee voted out a new draft by a majority vote. LD 2315 does not eliminate seasonality but reduces the maximum length of a permissible season from 40 weeks, the nation's longest, to 26 weeks. Any hotel, motel, camp or restaurant operating for a period of less than 26 weeks is deemed seasonal. Any potato packing business operating for a period of 26 or more weeks is not seasonal, but can petition for seasonal status if operating for less than that time period.