

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

The bill was withdrawn at the request of the sponsor. The bill was the product of a dispute between the Department of Transportation and a property owner who sold property to the department that was never used by that agency. When the property was offered by the department for sale, the sale price was substantially higher than the purchase price for that property.

Following introduction of the bill, the Department of Transportation and the interested property owner were able to reconcile their difference, and the bill was withdrawn.

The provisions of the bill raised some very controversial issues, namely, the preference of purchases for state property and property sale price criteria. These issues need to be examined very carefully.

LD: 973 AN ACT TO CLARIFY AND MAKE TECHNICAL CHANGES GWADOSKY
EMERGENCY IN THE LAW GOVERNING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS BOUTILIER
ND: 1560 DESCOTEAUX

OTP-ND HP1072 HOUSE Accepted Committee Report CH #295
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

SUMMARY:

Please refer to LD 1560, the new draft of LD 973.

LD: 992 RESOLVE, PERTAINING TO A STATE EMPLOYEE MANNING
EMERGENCY HEALTH PROMOTION GILL
ND: 1428

OTP-ND HPO990 HOUSE Accepted Committee Report CH #23
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

SUMMARY:

Please refer to LD 1428, the new draft of LD 992.

LD: 1044 RESOLVE, TO ESTABLISH THE COMMISSION ON THE THERIAULT
EMERGENCY EVALUATION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LISNIK
LICENSING BOARDS BRANNIGAN
VIOLETTE

LV-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

SUMMARY:

LD 1044 proposed to establish a 7 member commission to include 3 legislators (2 reps and 1 senator) to study and evaluate Maine's 41 occupational/professional licensing boards. The commission was directed to:

A. study licensing requirements and procedures

B. evaluate the impact of occupational and professional licensing on the State and on the supply of licensed/certified professionals and skilled occupations, and

C. evaluate the quality of licensed/certified professionals and skilled persons.

Maine's occupational and professional licensing boards, for the most part, are composed of members of the profession/occupation that is being regulated. Current law requires these boards to have one public member. These self-regulating boards have been criticised for allegedly controlling competition and for opposition to innovation and mavericks in the profession/occupation. The issue is whether licensing boards in Maine truly serve a public purpose. Does the current licensing system adequately protect the public and at the most economical cost?

The bill was given a "leave-to-withdraw" because the Joint Standing Committee on Audit and Program Review is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the professional and occupational licensing boards.

LD: 1093 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION OF MAINE TO PROVIDE FOR
STAGGERED 4-YEAR TERMS FOR SENATORS

PRAY
DOW
VIOLETTE
PERKINS

OTP HOUSE Other
SENATE Other
GOV

H-179 HA CLARK H
S-364 CA CONF COMM

SUMMARY:

LD 1093 proposed to lengthen the term of office for senators elected to the Maine Senate. In addition, the terms would be staggered. Beginning in 1986, Senators elected in the odd numbered districts would be elected to 4 year terms. In 1988, Senators from the even numbered districts would be elected to 4 year terms.

According to "The Book of The States, 1984-85" published by the Council of State Governments, 12 states have 2-year senate terms, 37 states have 4-year senate terms, and 1 state, Nebraska, has a unicameral legislature with a 4-year term. The states with two-year senate terms include:

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1) Arizona | 5) Maine | 9) North Carolina |
| 2) Connecticut | 6) Massachusetts | 10) Rhode Island |
| 3) Georgia | 7) New Hampshire | 11) South Dakota |