

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

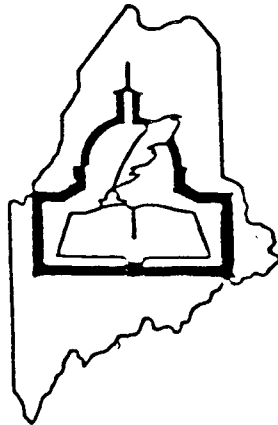
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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.

LD: 1166 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A TOLL-FREE NUMBER
FOR MAINE CITIZENS NEEDING INFORMATION

MCHENRY
VIOLETTE
MANNING
THERIAULT

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

SUMMARY:

LD 1166 proposed to establish a Central Clearinghouse of Information to which the General Public could pose inquiries by toll free telephone service. The Central Clearinghouse Agency would directly answer questions or refer the caller to the source of information as it relates to

- A. state programs and state agencies,
- B. federal programs,
- C. general information, and
- D. the State and political subdivisions.

LD 1166 did not address "mechanical" issues involved such as structure and operation of the office, scope of responsibility, appointment of the director, etc. A \$54,415 appropriation for the biennium for 1 clerical position, rent, and watts line usage seemed inadequate for the broad responsibilities and active public use of the office.

Since the average citizen is not very knowledgeable about the workings of State Government, it seemed appropriate that a central clearinghouse of information could be of great assistance to the members of the public. Limited resources, however, and the need for a better understanding of how the office would work resulted in a "leave-to-withdraw motion.

LD: 1178 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A VEHICLE RENTAL AGENCY
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

NADEAU G G
PEARSON
KANY
DESCOTEUX

OTP-AM HOUSE Emerg. Enacted
SENATE Emerg. Enacted

CH #453

GOV
H-129 CA H S
H-161 CA GWADOSKY H S

SUMMARY:

LD 1178, which has been enacted, authorized the Department of Conservation to operate a vehicle rental agency which would rent vehicles to various programs. Revenues returned by the rental fees would be deposited in a fund to be used for maintaining and replacing the vehicles. The vehicle rental

agency would be initially financed by a \$100,000 appropriation from the General Fund. The appropriation would be repaid at a rate of 10% per year.

According to Mr. Norman Rodrique, the Department of Conservation has roughly 400 vehicles including pick-up trucks and automobiles. Most of these vehicles are used "in the field" and approximately 50 vehicles are used in the Augusta area. The vehicles are allocated among various bureaus and divisions within the Department. The Bureau of Forestry and the Bureau of Parks and Recreation are the agencies with the most vehicles in the department.

The agencies have a very traditional and restricted attitude toward lending their vehicles to other bureaus within the department which promotes each organization to obtain its own vehicles. Thus, each bureau purchases and maintains vehicles without regard to what other agencies do with their vehicles. The vehicles are not regularly and properly maintained, according to the department.

The Department of Conservation estimates that during the first year a pilot project involving the department's 50 vehicles in the Augusta area be involved in the rental program. The Department of Conservation would rent the 50 vehicles to bureaus and agencies within the department and to other agencies on the East side of the Kennebec (DEP; Agriculture, etc.).

LD:	1202	AN ACT TO INVOLVE THE LEGISLATURE IN	PRAY
		ESTABLISHING EQUAL PAY FOR JOBS OF COMPARABLE	DIAMOND J
ND:	1559	WORTH IN STATE GOVERNMENT	PERKINS
			MURPHY T

OTP-ND	SPO594	HOUSE Accepted Committee Report	
		SENATE Accepted Committee Report	CH #289
		GOV	

SUMMARY:

Please refer to LD 1559, the new draft of LD 1202.

LD:	1204	AN ACT TO CREATE A STATE COMMITTEE TO DEAL	MACBRIDE
		WITH POST-SECONDARY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL	GWADOSKY
		EDUCATION	COTE
			SMITH C W

LU-WD		HOUSE Accepted Committee Report70	
		SENATE Accepted Committee Report	
		GOV	

SUMMARY:

LD 1204 proposed to establish a committee under the State Board of Education to administer and operate the vocational technical institutes in Maine. The bill did not address the issues of greater flexibility for the institutes with respect to personnel and allocation of funds.