

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS
BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD RESOLVE, TO PERMIT REGINALD AND ALICE HUARD TO RESOLVE 1987
1570 SUE THE STATE FOR COMPENSATION FOR LOSSES c. 70
CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF
CLAIMS OF CHILD ABUSE INSTITUTED BY THE STATE

Sponsor: CARTER, Kany, Brannigan, Priest
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 519

SUMMARY: Reginald and Alice Huard operated a nursery school for several years when Reginald Huard was indicted, then acquitted, of child abuse. The Huard's had to close their school and lost their livelihood. The original resolve would authorize the Huards to sue the State for damages they claimed to have suffered based on the alleged false claims of child abuse, for up to \$150,000.

The New Draft authorizes the Huards to sue the State for up to \$75,000. The New Draft clarifies that the resolve does not waive the State's sovereign immunity for the purposes of the U. S. Civil Rights Act.

LD AN ACT RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF ALCOHOLIC PL 1987
1571 BEVERAGES BY MINORS c. 426

Sponsor: McSWEENEY, Conley
Committee Report: New Draft of LD 685

SUMMARY: The original bill attempted to give a judge the option of sentencing a minor to community service, rather than a civil forfeiture, for buying or possessing liquor. However, as drafted, it was unclear whether the community service was an alternative to or in addition to the civil forfeiture which the statute prohibited the judge from suspending.

The New Draft specifically exempts from the mandated imposition of the civil forfeiture in cases in which the judge chooses to impose community service as a penalty.

LD AN ACT TO ENSURE THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC DOES PL 1987
1577 NOT HAVE ACCESS TO LICENSED GAMES OF CHANCE c. 314

Sponsor: DILLENBACK, Tupper, Paul, Usher
Committee Report: OTP-A
Amendments Adopted:
S-113 COMMITTEE

SUMMARY: This bill provides a definition of "member" for the purposes of the games of chance laws. It also ensures that bona fide nonprofit organizations cannot circumvent the law prohibiting the participation by nonmembers as a regular occurrence.