

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
JUDICIARY**

**AUGUST 1991**

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<b>PUBLIC XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<b>P&amp;S XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<b>RESOLVE XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<b>CON RES XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<b>CARRIED OVER</b>	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
<b>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</b>	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<b>ONTP</b>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<b>LVWD</b>	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<b>VETO SUSTAINED</b>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<b>UNSIGNED</b>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<b>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</b>	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

**LD 254 An Act Regarding Court Deposits and Revenue Reporting**

**PUBLIC 132  
EMERGENCY**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
COTE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-144

**SUMMARY**

The bill allows courts that have minimal bail account balances to maintain the deposits in less-expensive noninterest-bearing accounts. It removes the restriction that deposits must be made within 72 hours of receipt. It makes revenue reporting requirements consistent for both the Superior and District Courts.

Committee Amendment "A" adds an emergency, clarifies the language and requires bail deposits to be made in a timely manner.

**LD 257 An Act to Improve the Forfeiture Provisions of the Maine Drug Laws**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
PARADIS P

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have made the state law consistent with federal law in allowing forfeiture of property for marijuana violations, and by not requiring the state prove that every coowner of the property knew or consented to the illegal activity. It also would have required that any agency receiving property forfeited under federal procedures go through the approval and record-keeping requirements of state law. See also LD 1516.

**LD 261 An Act to Amend the State Law Library System**

**INDEF PP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
RICHARDS

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-173

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have removed from the law the current designations of the tier system of state court law libraries and would have allowed the State Court Library Committee to make changes in tier assignments that reflect changes in the use of the libraries.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-173) replaced the bill. It would have closed 6 of the least-used libraries and upgraded the status of two others.

**LD 262 An Act Regarding Court Security in Cumberland County**

**LV/WD**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
ANTHONY

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
LV/WD

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

The bill would have given the Judicial Department authority to hire qualified personnel as state employees to perform court security functions in Cumberland County.