

# 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  
LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**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 255 An Act to Correct Deficiencies in the Election Laws**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
SIMONDS  
GILL

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have closed voter registration in the last 5 business days before the election, permitted clerks to test election ballots in their electronic voting machines several days before election day, and permitted election wardens to process absentee ballots while the polls are open on election day rather than waiting until the polls close as required under current law. See LD 1053 for provisions similar to the test ballot and absentee ballot provisions.

**LD 270 An Act to Remove the State from the Liquor Business**

**ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
PENDLETON  
MORRISON

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have eliminated state liquor stores, but continued the state regulation of liquor stores operated by private persons and the state regulation of wholesaling of liquor.

**LD 276 An Act to Create a Special Liquor License for Certain Service Provider Organizations**

**INDEF PP**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
BRANNIGAN  
RICHARDSON

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP MAJ  
OTP-AM MIN

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill would have created a new category of liquor licenses for transportation service companies, such as limousine and charter bus rental services. Those companies would have been able to apply for a license to sell spirits, wine and malt liquor within the vehicle to be consumed in the vehicle. The sale would have to be made in connection with the provision of transportation services.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-78), the minority committee report, would have limited the bill to limousine rental services, and clarified that providing liquor as part of the transportation service for a single stated fee constitutes the sale of liquor and requires a license. The amendment would also have allowed customers to bring liquor of their own into the vehicle as well as purchasing liquor from the limousine service, and would have exempted this type of license from the local approval requirement. The House and Senate accepted the minority report, but failed to enact the bill.