

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
LABOR**

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:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<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 511 An Act to Ensure Safety in the Workplace

LV/MD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MILLS	LV/WD	
PINEAU		
ESTY		
RAND		

SUMMARY

LD 511 required the inspection of certain industrial and commercial facilities that use hazardous substances, equipment and machinery prior to the initiation of operation, or resumption of operation of the facility after a substantial turnover of the workforce. The bill was similar to LD 349.

LD 547 An Act to Require Prompt Payment of Wages Due Upon Discharge for All Employees

PUBLIC 162

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ESTY	OTP-AM	S-98
MCHENRY		
PINEAU		

SUMMARY

Current law requires an employer to pay an employee's final wages within 2 weeks of termination of the employee's employment. The Maine Supreme Court has found that this law applies only to those employees who worked for certain employers listed in Title 26, section 621. LD 547 expanded the application of the law to include all employees, except for independent contractors.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-98) added a fiscal note.

LD 549 An Act to Exempt Certain Students from Eligibility for Unemployment Compensation Benefits

PUBLIC 173

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
VOSE	OTP	

SUMMARY

LD 549 excluded postsecondary school students who are participating in on-the-job training as part of their school curriculum from eligibility for unemployment compensation benefits. Employers of those students would not be liable for the payment of unemployment taxes on the wages of these students.

LD 555 An Act Regulating the Working Hours of Minors During School Vacations

LV/MD

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PINEAU	LV/WD	
ESTY		
RAND		

SUMMARY

LD 555 limited the number of hours that persons under 18 years of age who are enrolled in school may work during school vacations.

A similar provision was incorporated into an omnibus child labor bill, the new draft of LD 905.