

# 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:

|                                   |                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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 1052      An Act to Permit the Establishment of the Workers' Compensation Apportionment Arbitration Board      ONTP**

| SPONSOR(S)                  | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| PINEAU<br>CONLEY<br>COLLINS | ONTP             |                    |

**SUMMARY**

This bill established a Workers' Compensation Apportionment Arbitration Board for disputes among insurers regarding responsibility for incapacity resulting from a combination of injuries. Decisions of the board were final and not appealable.

**LD 1059      An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act to Provide for Fair Minimum Benefits      ONTP**

| SPONSOR(S)       | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| CONLEY<br>MCKEEN | ONTP             |                    |

**SUMMARY**

This bill required that the minimum total incapacity payment for workers' compensation be no less than 50% of the state average weekly wage. It required that the minimum partial incapacity payment be based on the employee's average weekly wage of no less than 50% of the state average weekly wage.

**LD 1073      An Act to Protect Private Sector Workers against Unjust Discharge      LV/WD**

| SPONSOR(S)       | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| CONLEY<br>RUHLIN | LV/WD            |                    |

**SUMMARY**

This bill prohibited employers from terminating employees except for just cause.

**LD 1127      An Act to Increase the Probationary Period for Police Officers      PUBLIC 182**

| SPONSOR(S)                    | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| ESTY<br>LARRIVEE<br>CLEVELAND | OTP-AM           | S-99               |

**SUMMARY**

This bill allowed municipalities and unions to increase the probationary period for police officers if an agreement on that issue is reached during collective bargaining.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-99) limited the extension of probationary periods over one year and allowed municipalities without unionized police forces to similarly provide for an extended probationary period.