

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**AUGUST 1991**

**MEMBERS:**

*\*Sen. Joseph C. Brannigan  
Sen. Dennis L. Dutremble  
Sen. Pamela L. Cahill*

*\*Rep. Rita B. Melendy  
Rep. Marge L. Kilkelly  
Rep. Wilfred J. Bell  
Rep. Nason S. Graham  
Rep. Conrad Heeschen  
Rep. Charles Plourde  
Rep. Carol A. Kontos  
Rep. Catharine Koch Lebowitz  
Rep. Madeline Stevenson  
Rep. Deale B. Salisbury*

**Staff:**

*Michael D. Higgins, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 289-1670*

*\*Denotes Chair*

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR  
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
ULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
RON CLARK  
RYAN M. DYTTER  
BRO FLATEBO  
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN  
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS  
KANE ORBETON



KAREN L. HRUBY  
JILL IPPOLITI  
JOHN B. KNOX  
PATRICK NORTON  
MARGARET J. REINSCH  
PAUL J. SAUCIER  
HAVEN WHITESIDE  
MILA M. DWELLEY, RES. ASST.  
ROY W. LENARDSON, RES. ASST.  
BRET A. PRESTON, RES. ASST.

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107/135  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**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.

heated residential building is constructed to meet minimum energy efficiency standards established in the bill; if the Commissioner determines that no other type of heating system is economically feasible; or if primary electric heat is medically necessary for the health of the occupants.

Committee Amendment (S-151) added a definition of "remodeling" and deleted the medical necessity waiver. The amendment deleted the provision prohibiting installation of electric heat in a building intended for occupancy by a person who may be eligible for public fuel assistance and made clear that this section applies only to residential housing with two or more dwelling units. The amendment adjusted several residential energy standards and added an insulated exterior door requirement. It added a requirement that the Commissioner adopt rules establishing infiltration and ventilation standards and added a provision requiring agencies, municipalities or granting authorities that provide housing subsidies to notify the Department that applicants for assistance have complied with this law. The amendment also increased the penalty provision and added a fiscal note.

**LD 872      An Act to Amend the Maine Housing Authorities Act and the  
Affordable Housing Partnership Act of 1989**

**PUBLIC 574**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MITCHELL E LEBOWITZ BRANNIGAN SALISBURY	OTP-AM	H-96

**SUMMARY**

The original bill did the following:

1. Clarified the payment of expenses incurred by a state employee who serves as an ex officio commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority;
2. Increased the bonding authority of the Maine State Housing Authority that is backed by the moral obligation of the State; and
3. Clarified that funds in the Land Acquisition Program may be used to finance the reasonable costs associated with the acquisition of land for affordable housing.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-96) changed the definition of "mortgage loan" by striking the restriction to first liens and made clear that a loan may be used to cover the cost of acquiring single-family or multi-unit residential housing. The amendment also added a fiscal note.

**LD 1214      An Act to Clarify the Duties of the Legal Staff of the Maine  
State Housing Authority**

**LV/WD**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
OLIVER CONLEY ADAMS GEAN	LV/WD	

**SUMMARY**

This bill sought to clarify and limit the duties of the general counsel of the Maine State Housing Authority to the general legal duties of a general counsel in order to avoid conflicts of interest, which may arise if the general counsel were to act in other capacities or hold other positions within the authority.