

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
HUMAN RESOURCES**

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.

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COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-321

SUMMARY

This bill creates the Office of Family Support within the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. The office is organized within existing resources to coordinate the development and implementation of family support policy among the department's bureaus. The bill also establishes principles for the delivery of family support services and creates regional family support councils and a statewide family support council to assist the Department in setting policy and developing service plans. It also clarifies the authority of the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to provide family support services directly or through community agencies.

Committee Amendment "A" removes references in the bill to the Office of Family Support. The coordination envisioned by the original bill occurs without establishing a separate office. The amendment also removes a provision that would have made regional family support councils responsible for assisting the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to plan for the implementation of court judgments such as the Augusta Mental Health Institute decree. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1488 An Act to Provide Access for Persons with Physical Disability to the State's Recreational Areas

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COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Bureau of Parks and Recreation to facilitate access to public parks and wilderness areas by allowing persons with physical disabilities to access these areas over roads previously blocked off.

LD 1493 An Act to Regulate Fines for Prohibited Acts Concerning the Use of Public Ways and Parking Areas Maintained by the State

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COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-333

SUMMARY

This bill provides greater enforcement power to a state institution under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B by raising the fines for traffic offenses to be consistent with those charged by the municipality in which the state institution is located.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-333) replaces language in the bill with more common civil violation language found elsewhere in the statutes and places a maximum on the amount that may be charged for a violation.