

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
JUDICIARY

MAY 1992

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1992**

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 far right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of enacted Resolve
CON RES XXX	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
EMERGENCY	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
CARRIED OVER	Bill carried over to Special Session
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass report accepted
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw report accepted
INDEF PP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House and Senate disagree; bill died
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree
VETO SUSTAINED	Legislature filed to override Governor's Veto
UNSIGNED	Not signed by Governor within 10 days
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

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, especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

The bill required that two consulting physicians must independently certify the individual's condition before a medically assisted death may proceed. If both consulting physicians certify that the individual has an incurable and irreversible condition, the individual's attending physician, any other physician and any health care facility would be authorized to assist the individual with a medically assisted death.

**LD 2258      An Act Regarding Parental Rights      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
LAWRENCE RICHARDS STEVENS P GAUVREAU	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

The bill established that the husband of a woman artificially inseminated with semen from a donor is the legal father of the child conceived.

**LD 2259      An Act to Modify the Medical Examiner Act to Limit Liability of Medical Record Providers      PUBLIC 723**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PARADIS P	OTP	

**SUMMARY**

The bill enacts language that parallels the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 200-E, subsection 6 to extend immunity from civil and criminal liability to those persons, primarily physicians and hospitals, who provide the medical examiner with the materials needed to perform the functions of that office.

**LD 2261      An Act to Consider All Sources of Income When Issuing Small Claims Judgments      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
WHITCOMB LIBBY	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

The bill required a judge to consider all sources of income of a defendant in determining a payment schedule when issuing small claims judgment. The bill allowed judges to set installment payments which take into account income received from public benefit programs and income which do not exceed the amount of the minimum wage for a 40-hour week.

**LD 2264      An Act to Enhance the Operations of the District Court Violations Bureau      PUBLIC 733  
EMERGENCY**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
PARADIS P	OTP-AM	H-1057

**SUMMARY**

The bill corrects inconsistencies in the laws that establish the violations bureau. The bill also defines the difference between the commencement of a traffic infraction through the use of a Violation