

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR

MAY 1992

Staff:
Lisa C. Copenhaver, Legal Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

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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
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.

**LD 2255 An Act to Clarify Certain Classifications under the
Prevailing Wage Laws**

LV/WD

SPONSOR(S)
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
LV/WD

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

Under this bill, a separate minimum wage could be set for a helper classification in a trade or occupation only if such a classification was licensed under the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32.

**LD 2310 An Act to Abolish the Second Injury Fund and Repeal the
Employment Rehabilitation Fund Assessment**

PUBLIC 825
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-1171

SUMMARY

This bill abolished the Second Injury Fund and the Employment Rehabilitation Fund and provided that any balances in those funds will be transferred to the General Fund after all claims against the funds have been resolved.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1171) replaced the original bill so that the Second Injury Fund was abolished but only the funding mechanism of the Employment Rehabilitation Fund was repealed. The amendment transferred the assets of the Second Injury Fund to the Employment Rehabilitation Fund and provided that any existing obligations of the former would be paid by the latter. All claims against the Second Injury Fund for which there is no obligation to pay as of the effective date of the bill were eliminated. All fines or payments that under current law are deposited in the Second Injury Fund were redirected into the Employment Rehabilitation Fund. The amendment also added a fiscal note.

**LD 2376 Resolve, to Establish a Blue Ribbon Commission to Examine
Alternatives to the Workers' Compensation System and to Make
Recommendations Concerning Replacement of the Present System**

RESOLVE 59
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)
SIMONDS
LORD
PINEAU
ESTY

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-1142

SUMMARY

This resolve established the Blue Ribbon Commission to Examine Alternatives to the Workers' Compensation System and to make recommendations concerning replacement of the Workers' Compensation Act.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1142) added an emergency preamble and emergency clause, reduced the size of the Commission from 18 to 4 members, and established a reporting date of August 1, 1992. Two of the four members are chosen by the Governor, one by the President of the Senate and one by the Speaker of the House. Each was given the power to veto the selection of the other. The reporting date of the Commission may be extended to September 1, 1992 if a majority of the Commission votes that an extension is needed. The intent of the resolve was to ensure that the Legislature vote on the commission's