

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

JULY 1993

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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

P&S XXX

RESOLVE XXX

CON RES XXX

EMERGENCY

CARRIED OVER

ONTP

ENACTMENT FAILED

INDEF PP

FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT

FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE

VETO SUSTAINED

UNSIGNED

DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

Chapter # of enacted Public Law

Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law

Chapter # of enacted Resolve

Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses

Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days

Bill carried over to Second Session

Ought Not to Pass report accepted

Bill failed to get majority vote

Bill Indefinitely Postponed

Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote

Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote

House & Senate disagree; bill died

Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree

Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Not signed by Governor within 10 days

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.

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

4693NRG

LD 120 **An Act to Cover Employees of the Maine National Guard under the Maine Human Rights Act and the Whistleblowers' Protection Act** CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
FARNSWORTH

SUMMARY

The bill specifically extends the protections and rights under the Whistleblowers' Protection Act and the Maine Human Rights Act to members of the Maine Army National Guard and the Maine Air National Guard.

LD 124 **An Act to Improve Enforcement of Small Claims Actions** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
CAREY ONTP

SUMMARY

The bill would have provided greater enforcement of a money judgment in a small claims action by requiring minimum monthly installments.

LD 142 **An Act to Impose a Cap on Awards of Damages in Tort Actions** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
MARSHALL ONTP

SUMMARY

The bill would have placed a cap of \$250,000 on damages awarded in a tort action.

LD 147 **An Act to Provide for Enhanced Penalties for Crimes Committed against Elderly or Handicapped Persons** ONTP

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
NASH ONTP

SUMMARY

The bill would have enhanced the classification of crimes committed against persons 60 years of age or older or handicapped persons or crimes committed against their property. The classification of a crime would have been enhanced by one level if the victim is an elderly or handicapped person.

LD 151 **An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Termination of Parental Rights and Placement of Children** PUBLIC 198

SPONSOR(S) **COMMITTEE REPORT** **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**
NORTON OTP-AM H-279

SUMMARY

The bill proposes to make 3 changes in the laws governing protection orders and termination of parental rights. First, the bill shortens the time period for review of final protection orders from 18 months to 6 months. Second, it allows a jury trial on petitions for termination of parental rights. The third