

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AFFAIRS

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:

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

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

4693NRG

LD 935 An Act Concerning Suspension of Registrations under the Operating-under-the-influence Laws

PUBLIC 160

SPONSOR(S)
LIPMAN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill permits a court to continue the registration of a vehicle otherwise subject to mandatory suspension of registration for the driver's violation of certain operating-under-the-influence laws in cases when a family member who regularly uses that vehicle can establish hardship from the suspension. Current law allowing the Secretary of State to transfer the registration to other family members is inadequate in certain cases, because insurance will not cover, for example, a child who registers that vehicle in the child's name if the child is not the owner of the vehicle.

LD 937 An Act to Amend the Liquor Laws

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
BARTH

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have authorized a liquor license for an establishment that operates at least 6 months as a Class A restaurant and is open as a lounge during the remaining portion of the year.

LD 938 An Act Regarding Visually Impaired Voters

PUBLIC 255

SPONSOR(S)
BALDACCI
WINN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-139

SUMMARY

This bill amends the law to accommodate voters with visual impairments. Enlarged ballots are permitted, a voting booth for the visually impaired at each voting place is required and confidentiality of reading assistance offered upon request.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-139) allows clerks, with the permission of the Secretary of State, to make enlarged specimen ballots as well as enlarged ballots. The Secretary of State will not have to provide enlarged specimen ballots.

The amendment adds a reporting requirement. Clerks who make enlarged specimen ballots and enlarged ballots must record and report the number of ballots made to the Secretary of State.

The amendment strikes language allowing the reading of a ballot outside the hearing range of others to a voter needing assistance. This removes the opportunity for confusion, since all voters must cast their ballots behind the guardrail at a polling place, pursuant to federal law.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.