

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
LABOR

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&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 &amp; 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 970****An Act to Repeal the Child Labor Laws**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**

CLARK

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill would have repealed the state laws restricting child labor and would have imposed strict liability on employers who hire students who are habitual truants.

**LD 978****An Act to Preserve the Solvency of the Unemployment Compensation Fund**

PUBLIC 22

EMERGENCY

**SPONSOR(S)**

CARPENTER

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

S-54

**SUMMARY**

This bill increases employer contributions to the Unemployment Compensation Fund and limits unemployment benefits to eliminate the deficit for 1993 and 1994. The fund is projected to have a deficit of \$14,400,000 for 1993 and \$43,600,000 for 1994, based on insured unemployment rates of 4.8% and 4.6%, respectively, for these years. Benefits are reduced by freezing the maximum weekly benefit amount until June 1, 1995 and by reducing the weekly benefit amount by \$6 for all new claims filed from April 1, 1993 to December 31, 1994. A flat surtax is imposed on employers which is .7% of covered wages for 1993 and .8% for 1994. In addition, the contribution rate for employers who have the maximum rate is increased by 1.0%.

This bill extends the sunset dates for the alternate base period and the dislocated worker benefits program, or DWB, through March 31, 1995 and allows that program to continue to exist through that date despite the low Unemployment Compensation Fund reserves. The bill makes one change to the extended benefit program by eliminating the special work search and suitable work requirements from March 6, 1993 to January 1, 1995. This is a change required by federal law.

The Committee Amendment (S-54) adds a fiscal note and transfers funds from the Department of Labor's Special Administrative Expense Fund to the General Fund to cover the cost of the increased contribution rate for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

**LD 1108****An Act to Amend the Child Labor Laws**

PUBLIC 434

**SPONSOR(S)**

AIKMAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

H-484

S-366 PEARSON

**SUMMARY**

This bill amends the child labor laws by expanding the hours 16 year olds and 17 year olds may work when school is not in session from 8 to 12 hours per day and from 48 to 60 hours per week, by establishing an exemption in the section concerning the hours of employment for work performed as a theatrical actor, by revising the language controlling the hours of the day 14 year olds and 15 year olds may work to parallel the federal child labor laws, and by giving the Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards rulemaking authority.