

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

Staff:
Marion Hylan Barr, Legislative Analyst

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

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CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL: (207) 287-1670
FAX (207) 287-1275

**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.

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SPONSOR(S)
STEVENS K
O'DEA

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-376

SUMMARY

This bill allows a tenant to make repairs up to \$1,000 to rental property and to deduct the amount of the repair from the rent.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-376) raises the amount for repairs that a tenant may deduct from rent and provides that deductions from rent may not be made for repairs of damage that is caused by the tenant or the tenant's invitee.

LD 1220 An Act Requiring Interest Earned on Security Deposits to Be Returned to Tenants

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
STEVENS K

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have required landlords to pay tenants the interest that is earned on security deposits held in escrow accounts, subject to the conditions of the return of the security deposits. Landlords would have been required to pay the interest accrued to that portion of the security deposit being returned to a tenant and would not have been required to pay interest if the security deposit were retained by the landlord.

LD 1224 An Act Concerning the Location and Licensure of Agency Liquor Stores

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
KERR

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have provided a free-market system for the licensing of all agency liquor stores. Under this bill, the 10-mile location rule and the bidding procedures would have been eliminated and a new licensing and renewal fee structure created.

The bill would have corrected a conflict that appears to exist between laws enacted in 1987 and recently enacted legislation allowing for the replacement of state liquor stores with private agency liquor stores. By repealing pertinent provisions, this bill would have reduced confusion over acceptable locations for agency liquor stores licensed under the Legislature's plan to close certain state liquor stores and replace them with agency liquor stores. The purpose of the proposed changes was to afford a smooth transition for existing agency liquor store licensees and to provide a reasonable application procedure for future license applicants.