

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1994

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, 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

ONTP

INDEF PP

FAILED ENACTMENT

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

Ought Not to Pass report accepted

Bill Indefinitely Postponed

Bill failed to get majority vote

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 unable to agree; bill died

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

5581LHS

Joint Standing Committee on Housing & Economic Development

LD 445 An Act to Ensure the Proper Installation of Manufactured Homes

PUBLIC 487

SPONSOR(S)
PLOURDE

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-728

SUMMARY

In 1989 the Legislature required the Manufactured Housing Board to adopt standards for the installation of manufactured homes in the State. The board has adopted those standards. This bill requires that all manufactured homes be installed in accordance with those standards.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-728) replaces the original bill. The amendment establishes standards for permanent foundations for both newer mobile homes and modular homes; but does not address the issue of adopting the standards of the Manufactured Housing Board.

LD 1071 An Act to Create the Maine Job Growth Fund

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
PINGREE

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill creates the Regional Revolving Loan Fund to assist businesses to create or retain jobs. The Finance Authority of Maine will assist regional development corporations in administering the program. There is a \$75,000 loan maximum. The Regional Revolving loan fund was incorporated in LD 1547, contingent upon the passage of the bond issue.

LD 1361 Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering

RESOLVE 72
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)
WHITCOMB

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-1058 MELENDY
H-877
S-554 PINGREE

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies the mission of the Commission on Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering. The bill also redefines the powers and duties of the commission setting forth specific criteria for regulating genetically engineered products.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-877) replaces the bill and establishes the Commission to Study Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering. Specifically, the 14-member commission is charged with identifying and reviewing existing state laws that provide authority for regulating products and activities, such as food and agricultural laws, health and safety laws, confidential business information laws and environmental laws. The amendment also adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

SENATE AMENDMENT "B" (S-554) TO COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-877) adds an emergency preamble and clause and directs the Commission to Study Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering to consider mechanisms by which both risks and benefits created by the use of biotechnology and genetic engineering products and waste products may be evaluated. The Senate Amendment also adds the President of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation as an ex officio member and requires that the environmental scientist be familiar with biotechnology and genetic engineering issues.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-1058) clarifies that the president of the Maine Science and Technology Foundation is not subject to the appointment procedure.

LD 1385 An Act to Provide One Centralized Location for Obtaining ONTP
Permits

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WINN	ONTP	
BUSTIN		
MICHAEL		

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a permitting center within the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Business Development. The center will allow businesses to get all necessary state license or permit applications in one location. The center also mediates disputes between permitting agencies and businesses and tracks permitting actions within State Government.

LD 1399 An Act to Encourage Residential Energy Efficiency ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HEESCHEN	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill establishes a residential home energy-rating system and an energy-efficient mortgage pilot program to promote energy efficiency in existing residential buildings, by ensuring availability of energy efficiency information at the time of sale. LD 1408 in the Banking and Insurance Committee establishes a task force to look at the home energy rating system.

LD 1461 An Act to Establish a Capital Access Program ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PINGREE	ONTP	
TREAT		

SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill is to establish a Capital Access Program. The Capital Access program is designed to give banks a flexible tool to make business loans that are somewhat riskier than a conventional bank loan. This bill was incorporated in LD 1547, contingent upon passage of the bond issue.