

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BANKING AND INSURANCE

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

**LD 1703 An Act Concerning the Payment of Medical Expenses in
Controverted Workers' Compensation Cases**

P & S 84

SPONSOR(S)
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-471

SUMMARY

This bill addresses the issue of medical payments in controverted workers' compensation cases. It requires health insurers to pay for medical treatment for employees and their dependents and, if the dependent has later prevailed on a workers' compensation claim, allows the repayment of benefits between the employer and insurance carrier or among insurance carriers.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-471) replaces the entire bill. It directs the Superintendent of Insurance to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and Insurance by January 15, 1995 on the payment of medical expenses in controverted workers' compensation cases.

LD 1708 An Act to Protect Consumers in Loan Broker Transactions

PUBLIC 495

SPONSOR(S)
CARPENTER

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-402

SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill is to clarify and strengthen ambiguous and limited provisions in current laws governing loan brokers. In order to accomplish this, the bill makes the following changes to the law.

1. This bill extends the remedies and penalties applicable to credit services organizations that violate specific provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 9-A to credit service organizations that cause actual damage to consumers through unfair, unconscionable or deceptive practices.
2. The bill also eliminates the requirement that, in a civil action brought by the administrator through the Attorney General, before assessing a civil penalty a court must make a finding of repeated or willful violations or of an assurance of discontinuance.
3. The bill eliminates the minimum and maximum limits on damage awards in civil actions brought by an aggrieved consumer.
4. The bill adds to the remedies and penalties available under this section of law the revocation, suspension or nonrenewal of a credit service organization's registration.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-402) makes necessary technical changes to conform existing laws to current drafting standards. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1722 An Act to Promote Economic and Employment Growth in the
Financial Services Sector**

PUBLIC 618

SPONSOR(S)
MCCORMICK
PINEAU

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM MAJ
ONTP MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-442

SUMMARY

The purpose of this bill is to amend the consumer finance laws to attract providers of credit to originate or service loans in this State. This bill deregulates lender credit card programs so that the