

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LABOR

MAY 1994

Staff:
Lisa Copenhaver, Legislative Analyst

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

MEMBERS:

**Sen. James R. Handy
Sen. M. Ida Luther
Sen. Charles M. Begley*

**Rep. Richard P. Ruhlin
Rep. Vivian St. Onge
Rep. Gail M. Chase
Rep. Arthur H. Clement
Rep. Ralph I. Coffman
Rep. Mary E. Sullivan
Rep. Rosalie H. Aikman
Rep. Robert B. Carr
Rep. James D. Libby
Rep. David A. Lindahl*

**Denotes Chair*

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST
JULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
MARION HYLAN BARR
JON CLARK
LISA COPENHAVER
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS
JILL IPPOLITI



JOHN B. KNOX
ROY W. LENARDSON
PATRICK NORTON
JANE ORBETON
MARGARET J. REINSCH
PAUL J. SAUCIER

JOHN G. KELLEY, RESEARCHER
DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER
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
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 1843 An Act to Extend Penalty Sanctions to Employee Health
Benefit Plans**

PUBLIC 648

SPONSOR(S)
HANDY

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-563

SUMMARY

This bill provides penalties for violations of laws governing employee health benefit plans. The law currently provides penalties for violations of the law pertaining to time of payment, cessation of employment, equal pay and unfair agreements. These penalties are attorney's fees, court costs, interest and liquidated damages. This bill extends these same penalties to violations of the law pertaining to employee health benefit plans.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" (S-563) provides for the same penalties as in the original bill except that liquidated damages are not available in actions for unpaid health benefits. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1847 An Act Concerning Agency Service Fees

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that a public employer make the payment of union membership dues or agency service fees a condition of employment. An employee who is not a member of the union would be required to pay an agency service fee to the union, but the bill specifies that the cost of activities not germane to collective bargaining and grievance administration could not be included in the calculation of the fee. The bill also would have provided the procedural safeguards required to protect the First Amendment rights of the nonmember as presented by the United State Supreme Court in Chicago Teachers Union v. Hudson, 475 U.S. 292 (1986).

LD 1861 An Act Concerning Registered Apprenticeship Programs

PUBLIC 630

SPONSOR(S)
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-489

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program to develop an option for eligible students to enter a registered apprenticeship program either during or at the conclusion of the student's formal education requirements under the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program. The bill also requires the Department of Labor to adjust the fund allocation formula for the State's private industry councils to provide a financial incentive to increase registered apprenticeship placements within the Maine Job Training System. The Department of Labor is required to inform job training applicants about registered apprenticeship programs and to work with the Maine Apprenticeship and Training Council to see if a registered apprenticeship program can be established for an interested applicant. The bill also clarifies the use of the term "apprenticeship" in the Maine Revised Statutes by referring to "registered apprenticeship" wherever reference is made to an apprenticeship program registered with the Maine Apprenticeship and Training Council.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-489) removes the sections of the bill that affect the Maine Youth Apprenticeship Program and the distribution of funds under the State's Job Training Partnership Act program. The amendment also removes unnecessary language concerning the Maine Job Training System and