

# 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 electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
JUDICIARY**

**JULY 1997**

***MEMBERS:***

*Sen. Susan W. Longley, Chair*

*Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III*

*Sen. John W. Benoit*

*Rep. Richard H. Thompson, Chair*

*Rep. Elizabeth Watson*

*Rep. David Etnier*

*Rep. Joseph M. Jabar, Sr.*

*Rep. Richard H. Mailhot*

*Rep. Judith A. Powers*

*Rep. Debra D. Plowman*

*Rep. David R. Madore*

*Rep. Richard A. Nass*

*Rep. G. Paul Waterhouse*

***Staff:***

*Margaret J. Reinsch, Principal Analyst*

*Lisa C. Copenhaver, Legislative Analyst*

*Thomas Eyman, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis*

*Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333*

*(207)287-1670*



**Maine State Legislature**

**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
Fax: (207) 287-1275

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees  
August 1997**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CARRIED OVER*.....*Bill carried over to Second Regular Session*
- CON RES XXX*.....*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....*House & Senate disagree; bill died*
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....*One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill*
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*
- EMERGENCY*.....*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....*Bill failed to get majority vote*
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*
- INDEF PP*.....*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*
- ONTP*.....*Ought Not To Pass report accepted*
- OTP ND*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft*
- OTP ND/NT*.....*Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title*
- P&S XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*
- PUBLIC XXX*.....*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*
- RESOLVE XXX*.....*Chapter # of finally passed Resolve*
- UNSIGNED*.....*Bill held by Governor*
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

*David E. Boulter, Director*

Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

**LD 591****An Act to Require Courts to Take Court Costs into Consideration in Criminal Proceedings**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)  
CLUKEYCommittee Report  
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 591 proposed to require the court, when sentencing a defendant, to consider the court costs incurred and would have allowed the court discretion in whether to impose a sum adequate to cover all or part of the court costs.

**LD 634****An Act Concerning the Disclosure of a Criminal Suspect's Identity**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)  
ETNIERCommittee Report  
ONTPAmendments Adopted

LD 634 proposed to allow the disclosure of a criminal suspect's identity before the suspect's arrest or indictment only when the disclosure is necessary or useful to the law enforcement agency's investigation.

**LD 661****An Act to Require a 24-hour Waiting Period before an Abortion May Be Performed**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)  
AHEARNECommittee Report  
ONTP MAJ  
OTP-AM MINAmendments Adopted

LD 661 proposed to repeal existing standards for informed consent and would have replaced them with a provision modeled after the Pennsylvania statute held constitutional in Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey, 505 U.S. 833, 112 S.Ct. 2791, 120 L.Ed.2d 674 (1992).

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-165)** (Minority Report) proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 662****An Act to Require Parental Notification for Minors Seeking Abortions**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)  
AHEARNECommittee Report  
ONTP MAJ  
OTP-AM MINAmendments Adopted

LD 662, modeled on Ohio law, proposed to require parental notification before an abortion is performed or induced on a pregnant minor. The bill proposed to require that notification be provided to one parent or, when the minor is in fear of physical, sexual or emotional abuse from a parent, to a specified relative, who may be a grandparent, a stepparent or a sister or brother who is 21 years of age or older. The bill also proposed alternative procedures