

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**JULY 1997**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. John M. Nutting, Chair*

*Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait*

*Sen. James D. Libby*

*Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne, Chair*

*Rep. William Lemke*

*Rep. Lucien A. Dutremble*

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*Rep. Belinda A. Gerry*

**Staff:**

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**Maine State Legislature**

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**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 1115 proposed to amend the Maine Administrative Procedure Act regarding legislative review of major substantive agency rules to:

1. Require agencies, when they file finally adopted rules that have been reviewed by the Legislature with the Secretary of State, to cite the legislative act that authorized final adoption by the agency.
2. Require agencies to file copies of provisionally adopted rules with the Secretary of State at the same time they submit those rules to the Legislature for review.
3. Authorize the Legislative Council to establish an earlier filing deadline for agency rules being submitted for legislative review when the Legislature anticipates adjourning before statutory adjournment.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 196 amends the Maine Administrative Procedure Act regarding legislative review of major substantive agency rules to:

1. Require agencies, when they file finally adopted rules that have been reviewed by the Legislature with the Secretary of State, to cite the legislative act that authorized final adoption by the agency.
2. Require agencies to file copies of provisionally adopted rules with the Secretary of State at the same time they submit those rules to the Legislature for review.
3. Authorize the Legislative Council to establish an earlier filing deadline for agency rules being submitted for legislative review when the Legislature anticipates adjourning before statutory adjournment.

**LD 1120**                      **An Act to Allow the Recording of Registry Records on Optical Disks**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOLDTHWAIT MAYO	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1120 proposed to allow the recording of deeds on optical disk or photograph as well as on microfilm and to permit a register of deeds to withdraw an original document from use after 50 years or earlier if in poor condition.

**LD 1152**                      **An Act to Provide Legal Counsel for Legislative Investigating Committees**                      **INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARVIN BENOIT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM    MAJ ONTP        MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-488
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