

# 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  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**JULY 1997**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr., Chair*  
*Sen. William B. O'Gara*  
*Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell*

*Rep. Edward J. Povich, Chair*  
*Rep. George H. Bunker, Jr.*  
*Rep. Roger D. Frechette*  
*Rep. Sharon Libby Jones*  
*Rep. Christopher T. Muse*  
*Rep. Michael J. McAlevey*  
*Rep. Judith B. Peavey*  
*Rep. Edgar Wheeler*  
*Rep. Julie Ann O'Brien*  
*Rep. James H. Tobin, Jr.*

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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:

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

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 1256

**An Act to Permit Disclosure of the Identity of Certain Juvenile Offenders**

ONTP

Sponsor(s)  
BROOKS  
PARADIS

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1256 proposed that a juvenile must be tried as an adult if the juvenile previously had been adjudicated twice as having committed any juvenile crime as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 3103. If a juvenile previously had been adjudicated twice as having committed a juvenile crime, the bill would have allowed law enforcement officers, officers of the court and juvenile caseworkers to release the juvenile's identity before a petition was filed charging the juvenile with a juvenile crime. The bill also proposed to give the judge discretion to disclose a juvenile's identity regardless of whether the juvenile previously had been adjudicated.

**LD 1285**

**An Act to Define the Permissible Duties of Part-time and Full-time Law Enforcement Officers**

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)  
BUNKER

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-623

LD 1285 proposed to require the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to design and implement by rule an intermediate law enforcement officer training course and recertification program.

The bill proposed to require the board to define the permissible duties of the 3 levels of law enforcement officers governed by Title 25, sections 2804-B, 2804-C and 2804-H and to submit these definitions to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice, along with the necessary implementing legislation. LD 1285 also proposed to require the board to review the certification of all law enforcement and corrections officers and to suspend the right to enforce the criminal laws of the State or to act as a corrections officer of any person found in violation of the training and recertification requirements found in Title 25, section 2804-B, 2804-C, 2804-D, 2804-E or 2804-H.

LD 1285 would have amended the Government Operations Surcharge Fund provisions by adding 2% to the 10% surcharge scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2001, with that 2% to be paid to the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to fund training and recertification programs.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-623)** would have required the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to define the term "part-time law enforcement officer" and adopt rules identifying the permissible duties of those officers no later than March 1, 1998. The rules would have had to be implemented no later than December 31, 1998.

This amendment further proposed to amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 2804-B to require a person covered by that section to complete specified recertification training annually. An officer who had completed the basic course described in Title 25, section 2804-C would have had to complete board-specified recertification training each year.

This amendment also proposed to require the board to review the certification of all law enforcement and corrections officers on March 1st of every year, beginning in 1999. The board would have had to decertify those individuals who, upon review, did not meet certification or recertification requirements.

The amendment would have specified that the provision regarding the additional percentage of the Government Operations Surcharge Fund to be paid to the Maine Criminal Justice Academy would take effect January 1, 2001, or when the funding for the operation of the Judicial Department's computer system lapsed, whichever occurred first.

The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

See Committee Amendment "A" (H-750) to LD 1138, "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1997, June 30, 1998 and June 30, 1999," Part O, enacted as Public Law 1997, chapter 395, which adopted an amended version of the Criminal Justice Committee Amendment "A"(H-623). The changes that were incorporated into Committee Amendment "A" (H-750) to LD 1138 delay the duties of the board to coincide with the receipt of anticipated funds from the additional 2% surcharge on fines, forfeitures and penalties.

**LD 1312                      An Act to Strengthen Parental Responsibility for Juveniles                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LINDAHL		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1312 proposed to amend the Juvenile Code to allow a juvenile court to order a parent to pay support for a juvenile residing in the Maine Youth Center or a county jail. The bill further proposed to allow the court to order a juvenile found to have committed criminal mischief to write a formal apology to the victim, to write a report concerning the public property damage and to contribute in a variety of ways to the restoration of the property damaged or to restitution to the victim.

LD 1312 further proposed to allow the court to order a parent of a juvenile found to have committed criminal mischief to submit restitution up to \$10,000 to the victim if the juvenile were in the custody of and residing with the parent and if the court found that the criminal mischief were a direct result of the parent's failure to reasonably supervise and control the juvenile's conduct.

The bill proposed that a parent or person who knowingly contributes to the commission of a juvenile crime is guilty of a Class E crime.

**LD 1324                      Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Review Sentencing Guidelines                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KONTOS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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