

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
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JULY 1997

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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).

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

3. It adds and amends definitions in the Arborist Examining Board laws and removes language that allows for unlicensed employees to work without direct supervision.
4. It updates and corrects an error with respect to the State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors and their "registered" counselor category.
5. It also defines the appropriate use of initials for respiratory care technicians, respiratory therapists and individuals who hold valid temporary licenses.
6. It adds "naturopath" to the list of terms used by naturopathic doctors.
7. It amends the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology laws to: eliminate references to the Commissioner of Education; add an exemption from licensure for persons practicing the funeral service profession on human remains in a licensed funeral establishment; repeal language that references the board holding examinations, as that function is now performed by a contractor; and extends the permissible length of a temporary permit to accommodate the new exam schedule.
8. It changes terminology used in the State Board of Funeral Service laws from "dead human body" to "human remains."

LD 1580

An Act to Improve Allopathic and Osteopathic Physician Oversight CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BUCK RAND		

LD 1580 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature. The bill proposes to increase oversight of osteopathic and allopathic doctors licensed to practice in this State. The bill increases consumer representation from three to five on the Board of Osteopathic Licensure and from three to six on the Board of Licensure in Medicine. To strengthen physician oversight, the bill creates a position of ombudsman to serve as an advocate for consumers of medical care who have filed complaints against physicians. The ombudsman will assist consumers in making and pursuing their complaints, in educating them about the purpose of the board and in ensuring that consumers get fair treatment before the board.

The committee has asked the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to convene a group of interested parties to study this issue and bring back recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the 118th Legislature.