

# 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

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

MAY 1998

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Michael H. Michaud, Chair*  
*Sen. John J. Cleveland*  
*Sen. Richard A. Bennett*

*Rep. George J. Kerr, Chair*  
*Rep. Thomas E. Poulin*  
*Rep. Elizabeth Townsend*  
*Rep. Kathleen A. Stevens*  
*Rep. Randall L. Berry*  
*Rep. Patricia Lemaire*  
*Rep. David N. Ott*  
*Rep. Richard Kneeland*  
*Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin*  
*Rep. Tom J. Winsor*

**Staff:**

*Jim Clair, Deputy Director*

*Office of Fiscal and Program Review*  
*Room 225, 5 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333*  
*(207)287-1635*



**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**  
**SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**May 1998**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. 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 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:

- 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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

Public Law 1997, chapter 759 restores the amount of the real estate transfer tax paid to the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund to 1/2 of the state's net receipts effective July 1, 1999.

**LD 2057**                      **An Act to Enhance Home-based Services for Maine's Elderly**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> KERR PARADIS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--------------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 2057 proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$3,000,000 to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services for the purpose of eliminating a waiting list of elderly and disabled individuals who require home-based care services through in-home and community support services and homemaker programs.

**LD 2063**                      **An Act to Create the Partnership to Rebuild Maine's Schools**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MITCHELL E BENNETT	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 2063 was referred jointly to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. This bill proposed to establish the School Repair Revolving Loan Fund. The fund would be administered by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to provide interest-free loans to school administrative units to make necessary repairs to school buildings throughout the State.

**LD 2064**                      **An Act to Foster Economic Development and Tourism in Maine**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAGGETT COWGER	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 2064 proposed to provide a \$2,000,000 appropriation for the construction and development of the Augusta Travel Plaza and the development of the Intelligent Transportation System. The appropriation would have been matched by federal funding.

**LD 2086**                      **An Act to Continue the Membership of the Maine Legislature in the Council of State Governments**                      **P & S 91**

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

LD 2086 proposed to restore funding for the Legislature's membership dues to the Council of State Governments for the 1998-99 fiscal year.

***Enacted law summary***

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 91 restores funding for the Legislature's membership dues to the Council of State Governments in the amount of \$61,615 for fiscal year 1998-99.

**LD 2101                      An Act to Continue Work-based Learning for Maine's Youth                      INDEF PP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLEVELAND KNEELAND	OTP      MAJ ONTP     MIN	

LD 2101 proposed to enable the Maine Technical College System to continue to provide a statewide work-based learning program for Maine's youth by appropriating money to continue the Maine Career Advantage Program. This appropriation would allow the program to retain its current level of services throughout the State. A General Fund appropriation of \$400,000 for this purpose was included in Public Law 1997, chapter 643, Part CCC.

**LD 2104                      An Act to Ensure Indoor Environmental Quality Assessment Assistance for Public Schools                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMALL	ONTP      MAJ OTP-AM    MIN	

LD 2104 proposed to require a public school utilizing the Division of Safety and Environmental Services within the Bureau of General Services to reimburse 25% of costs to retain qualified expert assistance or to perform analyses not normally performed by the division. The bill further proposed to place any income such as the 25% reimbursement into the IEQ Assessment Account, as established in the bill, to extend the effectiveness of the initial appropriation of \$100,000 included in the bill. The bill also proposed to change the term "indoor air quality" to "indoor environmental quality" to better reflect the potential causes of documented health problems and to expand the scope of an adequate assessment of a structure.