

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
LABOR

MAY 1998

MEMBERS:

Sen. Mary R. Cathcart, Chair
Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat
Sen. S. Peter Mills

Rep. Pamela H. Hatch, Chair
Rep. Roland B. Samson
Rep. Brian Bolduc
Rep. Joseph E. Clark
Rep. Benjamin L. Rines, Jr.
Rep. Stephen S. Stanley
Rep. Henry L. Joy
Rep. Steven M. Joyce
Rep. Robert E. Pendleton, Jr.
Rep. Russell P. Treadwell

Staff:

Heather H. Henderson, Legislative Analyst
David C. Elliott, Principal 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
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).

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.

state employment and job training agency. The bill also makes it a Class E crime for any of those agencies or agents to make an unauthorized disclosure of confidential information contained in employment security records.

LD 1999 **An Act Requiring the State to Pay a Portion of the Health Insurance Premium for Dependents of Retired State Employees** **ONTP**

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

LD 1999 proposed to require the State to pay 60 percent of the health insurance premium for dependent coverage for retired state employees.

LD 2007 **An Act to Establish the Administrative Operating Budget for the Maine State Retirement System for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1999** **P & S 73 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-870
-------------------	--	--------------------------------	--	------------------------------------

LD 2007 proposed the annual operating budget of the Maine State Retirement System for fiscal year 1998-99. The retirement system is required by law to present its annual operating budget to the Legislature for approval. The bill identified the retirement system's personal services costs and its costs for all other operating expenses. The bill also attributed the expenses of the system among General Fund, Non-General Fund and Participating Local District accounts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-870) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 73 is the Maine State Retirement System's annual operating budget for the 1998-99 fiscal year. Legislative approval of the annual budget is required by law. P & S Law chapter 73 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 1, 1998.

LD 2096 **An Act to Give Collective Bargaining Rights to Legislative Employees** **PUBLIC 741**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LINDAHL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-950 HATCH H-1166 HATCH
------------------------------	--	---	--	--

LD 2096 proposed to amend the State Employees Labor Relations Act by authorizing legislative employees to collectively bargain regarding all matters relating to the relationship between the Legislature and its employees. The bill proposed to exclude from the definition of legislative employee any employee who:

1. Is elected by popular vote;
2. Is appointed to office pursuant to law by the Governor or the Legislature;
3. Is employed in the office of the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives or the majority or minority offices of the Senate or the House of Representatives;
4. Has duties as a deputy, administrative assistant or secretary that necessarily imply a confidential relationship regarding matters subject to collective bargaining, as between that person and the Legislative Council;
5. Is a temporary, on-call employee; or
6. Has been employed less than 30 days.

House Amendment "C" (H-950) proposed to exclude from the definition of legislative employee those employees in the office of the President of the Senate and the office of the Speaker of the House. The amendment proposed to make a technical correction and to state that no expenses may be incurred in carrying out the purposes of the bill unless the legislative employees decide to collectively bargain. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation and a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" to House Amendment "C" (H-1166) proposed to make the bill effective on July 1, 1999, and to remove the 1998-99 appropriation.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 741 amends the State Employees Labor Relations Act by authorizing legislative employees to collectively bargain regarding all matters relating to the relationship between the Legislature and its employees. The law excludes from the definition of legislative employee any employee who:

1. Is elected by popular vote;
2. Is appointed to office pursuant to law by the Governor or the Legislature;
3. Is employed in the office of the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives or the majority or minority offices of the Senate or the House of Representatives;
4. Has duties as a deputy, administrative assistant or secretary that necessarily imply a confidential relationship regarding matters subject to collective bargaining, as between that person and the Legislative Council;
5. Is a temporary, on-call employee; or
6. Has been employed less than 30 days.

The law takes effect July 1, 1999 and prohibits the expenditure of any money unless the legislative employees elect to collectively bargain.