

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
AND
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MAY 1998

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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.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 657 transfers authority to review the nominations for Commissioner of Public Safety and the Chief of the State Police from the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice.

LD 2154

An Act to Improve State House Utilization

PUBLIC 671

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> RAND		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-533
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LD 2154 proposed to limit the excepted space to those offices occupied by the Governor or the Governor's staff in the west wing of the State House. Current law gives the Legislative Council control over all of the State House except for those offices occupied by the Governor or the Governor's staff on January 1, 1982.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-533) proposed to add language requiring the Legislative Council to ensure that the Governor and the Governor's staff have sufficient and appropriate office space in the State House. It also strikes language in current law specifying the uses the Legislative Council may make of the State House space.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 671 amends the law setting forth authority over use of space in the State House. Current law gives the Legislative Council control over all of the State House except for those offices occupied by the Governor or the Governor's staff on January 1, 1982. Chapter 671 limits the excepted space to those offices occupied by the Governor or the Governor's staff in the west wing of the State House. It requires the Legislative Council to ensure that the Governor and the Governor's staff have sufficient and appropriate office space in the State House. It also strikes language in current law specifying the uses the Legislative Council may make of the State House space.

LD 2181

An Act Concerning Reporting Deadlines of Studies Authorized by Law

**PUBLIC 582
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MITCHELL E RAND		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2181 proposed to extend the reporting deadlines of certain studies required in legislation enacted in the First Regular or First Special Session of the 118th Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1997, chapter 582 extended the reporting deadlines for studies involving the following entities: the Task Force to Study the Cost-effectiveness of the Child Development Services System; the Maine Commission on