

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
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

MAY 1998

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Sen. Richard A. Bennett

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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).

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.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-848) included a General Fund appropriation of \$571,300 in fiscal year 1998-99 to expand the activities of the Maine apprenticeship program. This amendment also included a deallocation of federal funds that is necessary to reflect the increased General Fund commitment. This amendment also added a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 2131 An Act to Restore the State House ONTP

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

LD 2131 proposed to appropriate money from the surplus funds to repair the State House to meet basic health, safety and fire code standards.

LD 2138 Resolve, Directing the Director of the Bureau of Veterans' Services ONTP
to Study Ways to Improve the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery

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

LD 2138 proposed to direct the Bureau of Veterans' Services to study ways to improve the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. The resolve also directed the Director of the Bureau of Veterans' Services to give preference to land within a 3-mile radius of the existing cemetery when looking for land to expand the cemetery. The resolve also appropriated funds to hire staff, purchase land, extend the granite wall directory, remedy the drainage problem and provide a reserve fund to hire temporary help to assist in handling the increased workload.

A General Fund appropriation of \$213,888 in fiscal year 1997-98 and \$566,212 in fiscal year 1998-99 was included in Public Law 1997, chapter 643, Part A for the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery for one Engineer Technician II position, 2 Heavy Equipment Operator II positions, one Heavy Equipment Operator I position and one Clerk III position in order to meet its obligations to veterans and their dependents as prescribed by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B.

LD 2162 Resolve, to Authorize the Maine State Museum to Purchase Historic RESOLVE 86
Maine Artifacts

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MITCHELL E LAWRENCE		S-447 PINGREE

LD 2162
This resolve appropriated \$162,000 from the General Fund to allow the Maine State Museum to purchase historic artifacts.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-447) removed the emergency preamble and emergency clause, changed the fiscal year to 1998-99 and authorized the Maine State Museum to purchase historic artifacts or to reimburse another organization for the purchase of historic artifacts.

Senate Amendment "A" to Senate Amendment "A" (S-449) removed the proposed General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 1998-99 of \$162,000 and replaced it with a new section that authorized the purchase of historic artifacts, utilizing funds available in the State Contingent Account and the Reserve Fund for State House Preservation and Maintenance.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-448) removed the proposed General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 1997-98 of \$162,000 and replaced it with a new section that authorized the purchase of historic artifacts, utilizing funds available in the State Contingent Account and the Reserve Fund for State House Preservation and Maintenance.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1997, chapter 86 removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause, changes the fiscal year to 1998-99 and authorizes the Maine State Museum to purchase historic artifacts or to reimburse another organization for the purchase of historic artifacts

LD 2167 **Resolve, to Encourage High-performance Work Organizations and Quality Jobs in Rural Maine** **ONTP**

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

LD 2167 required state agencies providing business assistance to inform and encourage applicants for assistance to participate in voluntary workplace evaluation programs conducted by nonprofit organizations such as the Maine Quality Center. It also provided funds for the expansion in rural areas with high unemployment and underemployment of workplace evaluation programs and for assistance in implementing high-performance workplace organizational practices.

LD 2178 **An Act to Meet Maine National Guard Payrolls Related to the Ice Storms of 1998** **PUBLIC 564
EMERGENCY**

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

LD 2178 provided for a transfer from the Maine Rainy Day Fund of \$785,000 to meet Maine National Guard payrolls in fiscal year 1997-98 related to the recent ice storms. All amounts reimbursed from the Federal Government would be deposited in the Maine Rainy Day Fund as soon as practicable.

Enacted law summary