

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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Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait

Sen. James D. Libby

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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.

LD 2280

**An Act Authorizing Certain Debt of Hancock County for
Construction of a New Jail and Courthouse Renovations and
Ratifying Certain Action Taken by Hancock County in Connection
with the Authorization of this Debt**

**P & S 81
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
GOLDTHWAIT
POVICH

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

LD 2280 proposed to ratify the action taken by the voters of Hancock County to approve the borrowing of \$6 million for a new jail facility and renovation of the courthouse in Ellsworth. Ratification is needed because the wording of the question on the ballot did not exactly match the wording required in the Private and Special Law authorizing the vote.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 81 ratifies the action taken by the voters of Hancock County to approve the borrowing of \$6 million for a new jail facility and renovation of the courthouse in Ellsworth. Ratification is needed because the wording of the question on the ballot did not exactly match the wording required in the Private and Special Law authorizing the vote. Private and Special Law chapter 81 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 3, 1998.

LD 2282

**An Act to Establish the Boundary between Harpswell and
Brunswick**

P & S 80

Sponsor(s)
ETNIER

Committee Report
OTP-AM MAJ
OTP-AM MIN

Amendments Adopted
H-1062

LD 2282 proposed to define and describe the location of the common boundary between the Town of Brunswick and the Town of Harpswell.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1062) makes technical corrections to the description of the boundary line between Harpswell and Brunswick and adds language clarifying that the description is the boundary line. The amendment also makes the Act conditional on approval of the voters of both towns.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 80 defines and describes the location of the common boundary between the Town of Brunswick and the Town of Harpswell. The Act is conditional upon approval of the voters of both towns.

LD 2290

**Resolve, for Laying of the County Taxes and Authorizing
Expenditures of Kennebec County for the Year 1998**

**RESOLVE 108
EMERGENCY**