

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

JULY 1999

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Sen. Paul T. Davis*

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the 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:

CARRIED OVER.....Bill carried over to Second Regular Session
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
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

LD 12

An Act to Change the Selection Process of the Oxford County Budget Committee

PUBLIC 31

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FERGUSON BRYANT	OTP-AM	S-11

LD 12 proposed to change the selection process of the Oxford County Budget Committee by repealing the provision that required municipal officer elections for the committee and by having the entire membership appointed by the county commissioners.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-11) replaced the bill. It proposed to amend the current law governing budget advisory committee membership selection by authorizing the Oxford County commissioners to fill by appointment vacant budget committee seats in their respective districts in the event that the annual district caucus fails to produce at least two qualified budget committee members. The amendment also proposed to require a county commissioner to give notice if the commissioner exercises budget advisory committee appointment authority. It also proposed to prohibit a municipality from having more than one representative serving on the budget advisory committee simultaneously. The amendment also would allow budget advisory committee members as of the effective date of the Act to serve out the remainder of their terms of office.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 31 amends the current law governing the appointment of Oxford County Budget Committee members. It authorizes Oxford County commissioners to fill by appointment vacant budget committee seats in their respective commissioner districts if at least two qualified budget committee members are not elected at the annual district caucus. The law requires a county commissioner to give notice if the commissioner exercises budget advisory committee appointment authority and limits a municipality to having no more than one representative serving the budget advisory committee simultaneously.

LD 13

An Act to Designate the First Saturday of Each October as Firefighter's Recognition Day

PUBLIC 19

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

LD 13 proposed to establish the first Saturday in October as Firefighter's Recognition Day in the State.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 19 establishes the first Saturday in October as Firefighter's Recognition Day in the State. The observance honors the men and women of the fire service of Maine -- past and present -- whether they be career, municipal or volunteer firefighters. The first Saturday of October immediately precedes the nationally-observed Fire Prevention Week.