

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1999

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*Sen. Mary R. Cathcart*  
*Sen. Philip E. Harriman*

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**Staff:**

*J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst*

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From: J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst

Date: August, 1999

Re: Bill Summaries, 119th Legislature, 1st Regular Session

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during the 1st Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 1st Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999. Joint orders are effective when passed.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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*  
*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*  
*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*  
*READ AND PASSED*..... *Joint Order passed by the House and Senate*  
*PASSED AS AMENDED* ..... *Joint Order passed as amended by the House and Senate*

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

**Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs**

**LD 1**

**An Act to Transfer Funds from the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve to the Maine State Retirement System in Order to Fund the Modification of Retirement Laws for Certain Law Enforcement Personnel**

**P & S 1  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAUD KNEELAND	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-7
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LD 1 proposed to authorize the transfer of the full actuarial costs to the Maine State Retirement System to fully implement the retirement law modifications for certain law enforcement officers that were enacted by Public Law 1997, chapter 740. Implementation of those modifications, however, required that sufficient funds first be set aside in a newly created account called the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve. The source of the funds to be set aside would be those funds that would otherwise be transferred to the Retirement Allowance Fund. The second step needed to modify those retirement laws required the Legislature to take action to direct payment of the full actuarial costs to implement the modification of the retirement laws, estimated to be \$3,250,000 as of July 1, 1998, from the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve to the Maine State Retirement System.

**Committee Amendment " A " (S-7)** proposed to establish February 1, 1999 as the effective date for the State Controller to transfer funds from the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve to the Maine State Retirement System. It also proposed to reduce the amount of funds to be transferred from \$3,250,000 to \$3,065,000.

*Enacted law summary*

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 1 directs the transfer of \$3,065,000, no later than February 1, 1999, from the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve to the Maine State Retirement System for the full actuarial costs to the Maine State Retirement System to fully implement the retirement law modifications for certain law enforcement officers that were enacted by Public Law 1997, chapter 740.

**LD 35**

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Create Affordable Housing**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BRENNAN	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 35 proposed a bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000, that would have been used for affordable and accessible housing for persons who are homeless, mentally retarded or mentally ill. The bill was carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.