

# 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. Jill M. Goldthwait  
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](http://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.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAREY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 245 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposed to abolish Kennebec County as a legal entity and to reassign the functions, duties and powers of several county officials and entities as follows:

1. Reassign the Register of Deeds to the Maine State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State;
2. Reassign the Register of Probate to the state court system;
3. Reassign the District Attorney to the Office of the Attorney General;
4. Reassign the Kennebec County Sheriff to the Department of Public Safety;
5. Reassign the Kennebec County Jail to the Department of Corrections;
6. Reassign the probate judge to the state court system, to be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate to the full-time position of probate judge for the former Kennebec County district; the probate judge may also be directed to preside over Juvenile Court in the former Kennebec County;
7. Eliminate the position of Kennebec County Treasurer;
8. Eliminate the position of Kennebec County Commissioner for each commissioner district;
9. Transfer title to all Kennebec County property, including land, buildings and fixtures, to the State; and
10. Require that the State assume all debts and liabilities of Kennebec County.

Finally, the bill proposed an effective date of January 1, 2000.

**LD 250**

**Resolve, to Name the State Office Building the Burton M. Cross Building**

**RESOLVE 33**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MADORE DAGGETT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-117
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LD 250 proposed to name the State Office Building the Burton M. Cross Building in honor of former Governor Cross, who was the sitting governor when the State Office Building was originally constructed.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-117)** proposed to amend the resolve by adding a requirement that the official naming of the building coincide with the reopening of the renovated State Office Building in 2001.

*Enacted law summary*

Resolve 1999, chapter 33 names the State Office Building after former Governor Burton M. Cross. The Burton M. Cross Building will be officially named in 2001 when the completely renovated State Office Building will be reopened.