

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**JULY 1999**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr., Chair  
Sen. William B. O'Gara  
Sen. Paul T. Davis*

*Rep. Edward J. Povich, Chair  
Rep. Roger D. Frechette  
Rep. Christopher T. Muse  
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Rep. Judith B. Peavey  
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Rep. James H. Tobin, Jr.  
Rep. Roger L. Sherman*

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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.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-63)** proposed to rename the resolve and make changes to incorporate into the scope of the study commission review of emergency responses as well as high-speed chases by law enforcement officers. The amendment proposed to expand membership of the commission to 13 members. The amendment also proposed to remove the Department of Public Safety from staffing duties and provide that, upon approval from the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis provide staffing resources to the commission. The amendment also proposed to add an appropriation and a fiscal note to the resolve.

**LD 300**                      **An Act to Require Life Imprisonment for Habitual Violent Offenders**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 300 proposed to define "habitual violent offender" as a person who has 3 convictions for certain violent offenses including murder, felony murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, elevated aggravated assault, gross sexual assault, sexual abuse of a minor, unlawful sexual contact, sexual exploitation of a minor, kidnapping, criminal restraint, burglary, robbery, arson, any other offense involving the actual or threatened use of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or the intentional or knowing infliction of serious physical harm upon another person. As proposed, a habitual violent offender must be sentenced to mandatory life imprisonment without probation or any other form of release from confinement.

**LD 307**                      **An Act to Establish the Crime of Aggravated Criminal Trespass**                      **PUBLIC 434**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LONGLEY	OTP-AM	S-9

LD 307 proposed to create the Class C crime of aggravated criminal trespass. As proposed, a person is guilty of aggravated criminal trespass if, knowing that that person is not licensed or privileged to do so, that person enters any dwelling place between the hours of sunset and sunrise and, at the time of the offense, has a prior conviction for burglary or criminal trespass.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-9)** proposed to replace the bill and create 2 Class C crimes of aggravated criminal trespass. The amendment proposed to increase the penalty when a person commits a violent offense or sexual assault in the course of a trespass in a dwelling place. The amendment also proposed to increase the penalty when the offender has repeatedly engaged in similar conduct in the past. This repeat offender provision is similar to those for repeat violent offenders and repeat theft offenders.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 434 creates 2 Class C crimes of aggravated criminal trespass. Public Law 1999, chapter 434 increases the penalty when a person commits a violent offense or sexual assault in the course of a trespass in a dwelling place and increases the penalty when the offender has repeatedly engaged in similar conduct in the past.