

# 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**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton, Chair  
Sen. Jill M. Goldthwait  
Sen. Paul T. Davis*

*Rep. Douglas J. Ahearne, Chair  
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Rep. Benjamin L. Rines, Jr.  
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**Staff:**

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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.

LD 352

**An Act to Encourage Qualified Persons to Enter and Remain in Law Enforcement Administration**

ONTP

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

LD 352 proposed to establish guidelines for salaries and benefits for all county sheriffs.

**LD 359**

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Require a Vote of 2/3 of Each House of the Legislature to Enact or Include a Tax or License Fee**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WATERHOUSE BERUBE	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 359 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to require approval of two-thirds of each House of the Legislature to enact or increase taxes or license fees except when inadequate funds have been appropriated for debt payment.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-172)**, which was not adopted, was the minority report of the committee. It proposed to remove all references to license fees from the original resolution.

LD 365

**An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Reporting Requirements for the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority**

PUBLIC 122

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TOWNSEND MICHAUD	OTP-AM	H-162

LD 365 proposed to expand the annual reporting requirements of the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority to include a specific reporting requirement to the Legislature.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-162)** proposed to specify that the reporting requirement be linked to the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority's fiscal year.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 122 expands the annual reporting requirements of the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority to include a specific reporting requirement to the Legislature. The law also outlines information to be included in the report and specifies that it should be submitted within five months of the close of the Authority's fiscal year.