

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 2000

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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
July 2000

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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:

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

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

David E. Boulter, Director
Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

LD 299

Resolve, to Create the Committee to Study the Governance of the Unorganized Territories of Maine

INDEF PP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOY	OTP-AM	

LD 299 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposed to create a governance system for unorganized towns. It also proposed changes to the laws governing unorganized towns, the deorganization of municipalities and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission. A subcommittee considered a fully-drafted version of the bill during the interim. That draft was the subject of a public hearing and work session in the Second Regular Session.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-782), proposed to establish a 15-member Committee to Study the Governance of the Unorganized Territories of Maine. It proposed that the study committee examine the feasibility of establishing an alternative system of governance for the unorganized territories, such as that proposed in the report of the subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government on Legislative Document 299. The amendment proposed to set a reporting deadline of December 15, 2000.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-559) proposed to alter the membership and duties of the Committee to Study the Governance of the Unorganized Territories of Maine. It also proposed a change to the committee's reporting date. The amendment proposed that the committee examine and explore options for greater self-governance for the unorganized territories.

LD 391

An Act to Develop a Department of Children

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'BRIEN J	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 391 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. The bill proposed to consolidate all services to children provided by the State in one department. It was introduced in the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature, but was carried over to the Second Regular Session.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-966), which was not adopted, replaced the bill with a resolve that would create the Task Force to Implement the 1991 Report of the President's and Speaker's Blue Ribbon Commission on Children and Families. The task force's membership would consist of the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate and the House and Senate majority and minority leaders. The task force would be required to report by November 1, 2000. The amendment also proposed adding an appropriation section for funds to support the task force's efforts.