

# 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.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-408)**, which was not adopted, would have added a fiscal note to the resolution.

**LD 621**                      **An Act to Allow Towns to Sand and Plow Private Ways**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 621 proposed to allow a municipality to sand and plow private ways if the voters of that municipality have voted at a public meeting to sand and plow designated private roads.

**LD 627**                      **An Act to Require the Legislature to Examine Executive Orders for Violations of Separation of Powers**                      **DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

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

LD 627 proposed to establish a mechanism for the Legislature and the Supreme Judicial Court to review the constitutionality of executive orders issued by the Governor. The bill also proposed to require the Governor to document the emergency that gave rise to the executive order and limit the effect of the executive order to the duration of the emergency.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-143)**, which was adopted by the House, but not by the Senate, proposed to require the Governor to disseminate executive orders to each member of the relevant joint standing committee of the Legislature. The amendment proposed to change title of the bill to reflect this requirement.

**LD 648**                      **An Act Related to Legislator Intervention in Actions Before a State Agency or Authority**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 648 proposed to make it a conflict of interest for a Legislator to intervene in an action before a state agency or authority whose members are appointed by the legislative committee on which the Legislator serves.

**LD 660**                      **An Act to Include Counties in the Definition of Local Government in the Archives and Records Management Law**                      **PUBLIC 12**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT SAXL J	OTP	

LD 660 proposed to bring the law into compliance with the assumption that counties continue to be covered by current state law governing recordkeeping. When the Municipal Records Board and the County Records Board were both