

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**JULY 1999**

**MEMBERS:**

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Sen. Susan W. Longley  
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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 640**

**An Act to Require Informed Consent when Using Mercury in Dental Procedures**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
MICHAUD

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 640 proposed to require informed consent from the patient for a dental procedure involving the use of mercury or mercury amalgam, including information on the intended use, potential advantages and disadvantages and other options for completing the dental procedure.

**LD 675**

**An Act to Amend Consumer Protection Laws with Respect to Internet Service**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
NUTTING J

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 675 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill proposes to require Internet providers to identify to each customer any local access numbers and long-distance access numbers that the customer may use to access the provider.

**LD 732**

**An Act to Require Certain Disclosures by Providers of Funeral Services**

**PUBLIC 282**

Sponsor(s)  
STANLEY

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-398

LD 732 proposed to require persons who provide funeral services or supplies to disclose the ownership of the funeral establishment and all of the options in services and supplies available for burial or cremation and to disclose the necessity and cost of each option.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-398)** replaced the bill and proposed to require funeral establishments to disclose the ownership of the funeral establishment and whether rental caskets are offered. This amendment also clarified that these disclosures supplement the disclosures required by Federal Trade Commission regulations. This amendment also added an allocation section and a fiscal note.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 282 requires funeral establishments to disclose the ownership of the funeral establishment on all contracts or agreements for the provision of funeral services or supplies. The law also requires funeral establishments to disclose on its price lists either that rental caskets are offered and the cost of rental or that rental caskets are not offered. These disclosures supplement disclosures required by the Federal Trade Commission.