

# 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  
Rep. Martha A. Bagley  
Rep. Benjamin L. Rines, Jr.  
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**Staff:**

*Christopher J. Spruce, Legislative Analyst  
Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*



**Maine State Legislature**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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 711**

**An Act to Require an Audit and Program Review of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority**

**ONTP**

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

LD 711 proposed to require the State Auditor to conduct an audit of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. It also would require the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government to conduct a program review of the authority. The bill also proposed to remove an outdated reference to the Maine Court Facilities Authority, which was subsumed by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.

**LD 715**

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide 4-year Terms for Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives**

**ONTP**

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

LD 715 proposed to amend the Constitution of Maine to increase the term of office of Legislators to four years following the general election in 2002. Under the proposed change, the Legislature would meet every year, but the business in the fourth year would be restricted as it is presently in the second year, the restriction on which would remain unchanged.

**LD 752**

**An Act to Require the Secretary of State to Supply Municipalities with Preprinted, Postage-prepaid Post Cards to be Used When a Voter Moves**

**ONTP**

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

LD 752 proposed to require that the Secretary of State provide municipalities with self-addressed, postage-prepaid post cards on which to report changes in voter registration. The Secretary of State would then notify the voter's prior municipality of registration of the change.

**LD 754**

**An Act to Amend the Laws Establishing a State Poet Laureate**

**PUBLIC 217**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT	OTP-AM	S-132

LD 754 proposed to streamline the selection process for the State Poet Laureate, to clarify the purpose of the position and to provide for a longer term.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-132)** proposed to correct a reference to the term of the Poet Laureate. The current term for the Poet Laureate is one year.

*Enacted law summary*