

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
JUDICIARY**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

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Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat

Sen. John W. Benoit

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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).

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 788

An Act to Clarify the Deceptive Trade Practices Act

ONTP

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

LD 788 proposed to clarify that the use of a geographic location in a business name not associated with that location is not a deceptive trade practice if that business name has been used for at least 10 years without objection by any person

LD 793

An Act to Confine Tribal Gaming to the Reservation of the Licensed Organization

ONTP

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

LD 793 proposed to require that high-stakes beano or bingo games be conducted on the reservation of the federally recognized Indian tribe licensed to operate them, rather than allowing the games to be conducted on any Indian territory.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-163), the minority report of the committee, proposed to clarify that the prohibition applied to games beginning on the effective date of the new law, regardless of whether a license had been issued or was pending to conduct high-stakes beano on land other than Indian reservation land. (Not adopted)

LD 794

An Act to Ensure That Child Support Obligations are Met

ONTP

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

LD 794 proposed to hold a parent responsible for child support while that parent is receiving public assistance, and to allow the department to collect reimbursement for the support once the parent no longer receives public assistance.

LD 822

An Act to Rename the Harassment Based on Characteristic Law

PUBLIC 51

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE W	OTP	

LD 822 proposed to change the name of the crime of “harassment based on characteristics” to “interference with constitutional and civil rights” to more accurately reflect the prohibited offenses.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 51 changes the name of the crime of “harassment based on characteristics” to “interference with constitutional and civil rights.”