

# 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:**

*Sen. Susan W. Longley, Chair*

*Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat*

*Sen. John W. Benoit*

*Rep. Richard H. Thompson, Chair*

*Rep. Thomas Bull*

*Rep. Charles C. Laverdiere*

*Rep. Patricia T. Jacobs*

*Rep. Charles E. Mitchell*

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*Rep. Debra D. Plowman*

*Rep. David R. Madore*

*Rep. G. Paul Waterhouse*

*Rep. William J. Schneider*

*Rep. Donna M. Loring*

**Staff:**

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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 942**

**An Act to Establish the Juvenile Division of the District Court**

**ONTP**

Sponsor(s)  
GLYNN

Committee Report  
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 942 proposed to establish the Juvenile Division within the District Court, with jurisdiction over matters within the Maine Juvenile Code, matters involving children in need of services, juvenile traffic offenses, emancipation proceedings, homeless juveniles and juveniles who have left home and other matters assigned by the Chief Judge.

**LD 947**

**An Act to Clarify Certain Liens**

**PUBLIC 88**

Sponsor(s)  
LAFOUNTAIN  
MADORE

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
S-38

LD 947 proposed to clarify the mechanic lien law by stating that the financing statement must be notarized and be submitted with a form approved by the Secretary of State, which is the same form as for UCC filings.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Secretary of State.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-38)** proposed to restructure the section of law relating to filing of mechanics' liens to simplify the language and to clarify what documents must be filed.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 88 requires the financing statement of a mechanic's lien to be notarized and submitted with a form approved by the Secretary of State, which is the same form as for UCC filings.

**LD 1010**

**An Act Regarding the Family Court**

**CARRIED OVER**

Sponsor(s)  
THOMPSON

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1010 proposes to give the family case management officer in the Family Division of the District Court authority to hear contested family cases and enter final orders if both parties agree.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 1011**

**An Act to Change the Application of the Durable Financial Power of Attorney Provisions**

**PUBLIC 118**

Sponsor(s)  
THOMPSON

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
H-138