

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
LEGAL AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

JULY 1999

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Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr.*

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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 1149

An Act to Require the Municipal Clerk to Attend at Least One Training Session that is Approved by the Secretary of State Every 2 Years Regarding the Conduct of Elections CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FISHER RUHLIN		

LD 1149, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposed to require each municipal clerk to attend a training session that is approved by the Secretary of State at least once every two years in regard to the conduct of elections.

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

LD 1162

An Act to Require Legislative Review of Rules Regarding Campaign Report Filing Forms

PUBLIC 157

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAGGETT	OTP-AM	H-241 TUTTLE S-44

LD 1162 proposed to amend the Maine Clean Election Act to require legislative review of Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices rules establishing the forms to be used by candidates to file campaign reports.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-44) placed the proposed language from the original bill in the section of statute governing campaign report filing by candidates.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-241) clarified legislative oversight of rules establishing campaign report filing forms.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 157 amends the Maine Clean Election Act to require legislative review of Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices rules establishing the forms to be used by candidates to file campaign reports.

LD 1164

An Act to Clarify Landlord Access to Premises in Residential Tenancies

PUBLIC 204

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

LD 1164 proposed to clarify a landlord's rights in cases where a tenant changes the lock to a dwelling without permission of the landlord.

Enacted law summary