

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
LABOR**

**JULY 1999**

***MEMBERS:***

*Sen. Neria R. Douglass, Chair*

*Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain, III*

*Sen. S. Peter Mills*

*Rep. Pamela Henderson Hatch, Chair*

*Rep. Roland B. Samson*

*Rep. Zachary E. Matthews*

*Rep. Roger D. Frechette*

*Rep. Albion D. Goodwin*

*Rep. Christopher T. Muse*

*Rep. Russell P. Treadwell*

*Rep. Jay MacDougall*

*Rep. Adam Mack*

*Rep. Gerald M. Davis*

***Staff:***

*Deborah C. Friedman, Principal Analyst*

*David C. Elliott, 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 1165**

**An Act Regarding the Retirement Plan for Rangers in the Law Enforcement Bargaining Unit at Baxter State Park**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MICHAUD STANLEY		

LD 1165 proposes to permit law enforcement officers currently employed by the Baxter State Park Authority to retire at age 50 after 25 years of service and to retain the current option to choose, instead, to retire at age 55 after 25 years of service. LD 1376 which was enacted as Public Law 1999, c. 493 provides prospective coverage for BSPA rangers under the 1998 Special Plan.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

**LD 1166**

**An Act to Establish Occupational Health and Safety Standards for Operators of Video Display Terminals**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RAND HATCH		

LD 1166 proposes to establish workplace standards with respect to video display terminals, including requirements for glare-reduction, swivel chairs, flexible work breaks and paid leave for vision examinations.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature.

**LD 1232**

**An Act to Amend the Definition of "Employment" in the Unemployment Compensation Law**

**PUBLIC 389**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNLAP CATHCART	OTP-AM A OTP-AM B OTP-AM C	H-502 S-319 MILLS

LD 1232 proposed to exclude services performed by a free-lance journalist from the definition of "employment" for purposes of unemployment compensation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-502)**, the majority report of the committee, proposed to refine the description of services by a free-lance journalist that will not be covered by unemployment compensation contributions or benefits. It also proposed to add a section to provide that agricultural work performed by aliens under a federal program are not covered by unemployment contributions or benefits.

**Committee Amendment "B" (H-503)**, a minority report of the committee, proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to add a section to unemployment compensation law to provide that agricultural work performed by aliens under a federal program is not covered by unemployment contributions or benefits. (not adopted)

**Committee Amendment "C" (H-504)**, a minority report of the committee, proposed to refine the description of services by a free-lance journalist that will not be covered by unemployment compensation contributions or benefits. (not adopted)