

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**JULY 2000**

**Staff:**

**J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst**

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**MEMBERS:**

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Sen. Mary R. Cathcart  
Sen. Philip E. Harriman**

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Rep. Joseph Bruno  
Rep. Richard A. Nass**



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TO: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs  
FROM: J. Timothy Leet, Senior Legislative Analyst  
DATE: July, 2000  
RE: **BILL SUMMARIES, 119th LEGISLATURE, 2nd REGULAR SESSION**

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs during the 2nd Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The summary describes each bill or order and relevant amendments as well as the final action. Also included is a statistical summary of bill activity by the committee. Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the 2nd Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000. Joint Orders are effective when passed.

The bill summaries for your committee also include 4 bills that, although discussed in work sessions, were never referred. LD's 2589, 2646, 2664 and 2692 were discussed as part of your committee process and are therefore included in this document for your information.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the committee this session. It is organized by bill (LD) number and two indices are located at the back of the document that group bills by subject and by LD number. 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:

*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  
*FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote  
*FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Bill failed to get majority vote  
*FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote  
*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*  
*READ AND PASSED ..... Joint Order passed by the House and Senate*  
*PASSED AS AMENDED..... Joint Order passed as amendment by the House and Senate*

A complete summary of bills for all committees will be available in the very near future. Copies will be on file in the Law and Legislative Reference Library and Senate and House offices. You will also soon be able to access these bill summaries from our website.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-416)**, the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1238**                      **An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$10,000,000 for Historic Preservation**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1238 proposed a bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 that would have been used to support the preservation of battle flags of the Maine's volunteer regiments and other projects designated by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

**LD 1360**                      **An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Committee on Substance Abuse**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1360 proposed to provide an additional General Fund appropriation of \$8,000,000 in fiscal year 1999-00 for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to implement the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Substance Abuse by providing additional statewide substance abuse protection, intervention and treatment services.

While this bill was reported Ought Not to Pass, allocations from the Fund for a Healthy Maine for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services for substance abuse services were included in Public Law 1999, Chapter 731, Part JJ.

**LD 1453**                      **An Act to Expand the Homestead Exemption Program Based Upon the Level of Funds in a Homestead Tax Relief Fund**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1453 proposed to create the Homestead Tax Relief Fund consisting of surplus appropriations for homestead tax exemption reimbursement, the elderly householders' tax relief fund and the Maine Residents Property Tax Program and surplus revenues that would have been deposited in the Maine Rainy Day Fund if that fund had not reached its limit. The amount in the fund would have been used annually to increase the amount of the homestead exemption up to a maximum of \$10,000.