

# 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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**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 1560**

**An Act to Amend the Qualifications for Appointment of the Adjutant General and Assistant Adjutant General**

**PUBLIC 291**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PINGREE SCHNEIDER	OTP-AM	S-151

LD 1560 proposed to change the qualifications for the appointment of the Adjutant General and assistant adjutant general.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-151)** proposed to remove the requirement that a person appointed Adjutant General or assistant adjutant general must have served at least five years in the Maine National Guard.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 291 states that a person appointed Adjutant General or Assistant Adjutant General must have attained the federally recognized rank of Colonel in the Maine National Guard.

**LD 1597**

**Resolve, to Transfer the National Guard Armory in Skowhegan to Somerset County for Use as a County Jail**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1597 proposed to instruct the Commissioner of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to transfer the Skowhegan armory to Somerset County for \$1.

**LD 1607**

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Revoke Voting Rights of Convicted Felons While they are in Prison**

**DIED BETWEEN BODIES**

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

LD 1607 proposed an amendment to the Constitution of Maine that revokes the right of a convicted felon to vote while that felon is imprisoned.

**House Amendment "A" (H-498)**, which was not adopted, proposed to amend the constitutional resolution to also revoke the right to vote of a person convicted of treason.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-287)**, which was not adopted, proposed to further amend the Constitution of Maine to give persons under guardianship for reasons of mental illness the right to vote.