

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. Richard J. Carey
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 1631

Resolve, Authorizing Richard Paradise to Sue the State

ONTP

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

LD 1631 proposed to authorize Richard Paradise to bring a civil suit action against the State for damages resulting from an automobile accident that occurred on December 22, 1979 in Jackman.

LD 1644

An Act to Clarify Laws Governing Simulcasting

CARRIED OVER

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

LD 1644, which has been carried over to the Second Regular Session, proposes to amend the limitations on off-track betting facilities to clarify that, by racing the number of days prescribed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, section 275-N, commercial tracks are entitled to engage in simulcasting during their live race meets.

LD 1655

An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Fund Raising During the Legislative Session

PUBLIC 273

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE ROWE	OTP	S-68 RAND

LD 1655 proposed to clarify that the prohibitions against solicitation of campaign contributions do not prohibit elected officials or their agents to whom the prohibitions apply from attending a fund-raising event held by a political party and do not prohibit the advertisement of the expected presence of any such person at such an event as long as the person has no official involvement in soliciting attendance and that all the proceeds from the event are paid to the political party or a nonprofit charitable organization.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-68) removed the emergency preamble and the emergency clause.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-99) proposed to remove that portion of the bill that would allow the advertisement of the expected presence of the Governor, a member of the Legislature or any constitutional officer or the staff or agent of any of those persons at fund-raising events held by a political party. This amendment was not adopted.