

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
TAXATION

AUGUST 1999

Staff:

Julie S. Jones, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Fiscal and Program Review
5 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0005
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MEMBERS:

*Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin, Chair
Sen. Beverly C. Daggett
Sen. S. Peter Mills*

*Rep. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair
Rep. Bonnie Green
Rep. Thomas M. Davidson
Rep. Patrick Colwell
Rep. Stephen S. Stanley
Rep. David G. Lemoine
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Rep. Eleanor M. Murphy
Rep. John T. Buck
Rep. Peter E. Cianchette*



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MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
From: Julie S. Jones, Legislative Analyst
Date: August, 1999
Re: Bill Summaries, 119th Legislature, 1st 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 Taxation during the 1st 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 1st Regular Session (unless a later date is specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999. Joint orders are effective when passed.

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:

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
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 amended 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.

LD 1851 **An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to Taxation of Recreational Vehicles** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> NASS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1851 proposed to require the owner of a camper trailer to decide by April 1st whether the camper trailer will be subject to personal property tax or excise tax. It would also subject nonresidents to personal property tax or excise tax if the vehicle or camper trailer other than an automobile, truck or truck tractor remains in this State for a period of 6 months or longer.

LD 1852 **An Act to Create Tax Fairness for Private Purchases of Health Insurance** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BERRY R NUTTING J	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1852 proposed a state income tax deduction for health insurance premiums.

LD 1855 **An Act to Establish a New Rate for Excise Taxes of Vehicles** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JOY	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1855 proposed to calculate the excise tax for a motor vehicle based upon a straight line formula that begins with \$250 in excise tax for a motor vehicle in its first or current year of model and decreases every year ending up at \$15 for a motor vehicle in its 6th or later year of model.

LD 1861 **An Act to Deter Export of Unprocessed Timber and Increase Maine Employment in Timber Harvesting and Processing** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> VOLENIK	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1861 proposed to establish a registry of wood product buyers to track the sale of wood products. The bill also proposed to make land ineligible for tree growth tax classification if the unprocessed wood on the parcel is sold to a buyer outside the United States, if alien labor is used on the parcel in a county where unemployment exceeds 4% or if the landowner fails to report the identity of buyers of wood products.

LD 1866 **An Act to Reform the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law** **ONTP**