

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

JULY 1999

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Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

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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 1885

Resolve, to Create a Task Force to Study Counterfeiting and the Unauthorized Sale of Consumer Goods and Labels

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
KILKELLY

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1885 proposed to establish the Task Force to Study Counterfeiting and the Unauthorized Sale of Consumer Goods and Labels. Under the bill, the task force would study the increasing sale of counterfeit goods in this State and recommend statutory changes, if needed, to ensure appropriate sanctions are imposed on this activity; the offering for sale of certain consumer goods in flea markets that may endanger the health and well-being of the State's consumers; and the use of improper or counterfeit Universal Price Code labels by persons trying to defraud merchants.

LD 1895

An Act to Establish Enterprise Zones to Fund Businesses in Areas of High Unemployment

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
LAVERDIERE
MILLS

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1895 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

The bill proposes to establish enterprise zones in areas of the State in which the unemployment rate exceeds the statewide average unemployment rate by 75% or more. These enterprise zones would receive priority for all state economic development funds. The bill also proposes to establish a fund in the Finance Authority of Maine and finance the fund through bonds issued by FAME. A business located in an enterprise zone could receive loans from the fund, based on criteria established and administered by FAME.

LD 1900

An Act to Give Consumers Restroom Access

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
SNOWE-MELLO

Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1900 proposed to require businesses to make restroom facilities available to customers who express an urgent need.

LD 1910

An Act to Promote Economic Development in Central Maine

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)
CAMPBELL

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1910 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.