

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
JUDICIARY**

**JULY 1999**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Susan W. Longley, Chair*

*Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat*

*Sen. John W. Benoit*

*Rep. Richard H. Thompson, Chair*

*Rep. Thomas Bull*

*Rep. Charles C. Laverdiere*

*Rep. Patricia T. Jacobs*

*Rep. Charles E. Mitchell*

*Rep. William S. Norbert*

*Rep. Debra D. Plowman*

*Rep. David R. Madore*

*Rep. G. Paul Waterhouse*

*Rep. William J. Schneider*

*Rep. Donna M. Loring*

**Staff:**

*Margaret J. Reinsch, Principal Analyst*

*Deborah C. Friedman, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis*

*Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333*

*(207)287-1670*



**Maine State Legislature**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013  
Telephone: (207) 287-1670  
Fax: (207) 287-1275

**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 1961**

**An Act to Amend the Right of Entry Clauses**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SNOWE-MELLO		

LD 1961 proposes to amend the right of entry clauses for the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, the Bureau of Parks and Lands and the Department of Environmental Protection, and under the forest practices laws. The bill proposes that entry upon private land by an agent or employee of the agencies or department is a trespass unless certain circumstances exist.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 1969**

**An Act to Revise Certain Provisions of the Medical Examiner Act**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCALEVEY O'GARA	ONTP	

LD 1969 proposed to amend the Medical Examiner Act to address the confidentiality of records and information, address testing for HIV, clarify the procedures for investigating by law enforcement officers, and procedures for the proper disposition of dead bodies.

**LD 1971**

**An Act Regarding Property Tax Liens**

**CARRIED OVER**

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

LD 1971 proposes to require the former owner of real property to notify the State Tax Assessor and the local tax assessor of the transfer of the property within 10 days of the transfer. It also proposes to require a lien on real estate to be placed in the name of the new owner if the assessor has written notice of the change in ownership.

This bill has been carried over to the Second Regular Session.

**LD 1972**

**Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Encourage Incorporations in Maine**

**RESOLVE 67  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT	OTP-AM	H-549 O'NEAL S-215

LD 1972 proposed to create the Commission to Encourage Incorporations in Maine. It proposed that the commission make recommendations on how to encourage corporations to incorporate in Maine initially, and how to encourage existing corporations incorporated elsewhere to reincorporate in Maine.