

# 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**

***MEMBERS:***

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Sen. Susan W. Longley  
Sen. Bruce W. MacKinnon*

*Rep. Gary L. O'Neal, Chair  
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***Staff:***

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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 2090**

**An Act to Require that Employees in 24-Hour Convenience Stores Have Access to Telephones or Alarms**

**PUBLIC 347**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUDLEY	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-485
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LD 2090 proposed to prohibit a convenience store from remaining open 24 hours a day unless there is an alarm or telephone in the store accessible to the employees.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-485)** proposed to change the title of the bill and add a fiscal note to the bill.

*Enacted law summary*

Public Law 1999, chapter 347 prohibits a convenience store from remaining open 24 hours a day unless there is an alarm or telephone in the store accessible to the employees.

**LD 2105**

**An Act to Improve the Maine Economy Through Small Businesses**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PINGREE ROWE	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2105 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill proposes to establish the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund in the Department of Economic and Community Development. The department would give grants from the fund to community-based organizations providing training, technical assistance and loans to microenterprises. Priority consideration would be given to grant applications that are joint or target low-income individuals or areas of high unemployment. The bill proposes to require that grants for loans must be accompanied by a certain level of matching funds and adequate technical assistance. The department would adopt rules, subject to legislative review, to establish grant application procedures and criteria. The bill also proposes to appropriate from the General Fund a nonlapsing \$1,500,000 per year of the biennium to the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund.

**LD 2112**

**An Act to Allow Doctors of Dentistry to Prescribe Physical Therapy**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PLOWMAN	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2112 proposed to authorize dentists to prescribe physical therapy as may be necessary for proper dental treatment.

**LD 2115**

**An Act to Promote Economic Development in Western Maine**

**CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GOOLEY BENOIT	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 2115 is being carried over to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature. The bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.