

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Criminal Justice*

*August 2001*

**Members:**

*Sen. Michael J. McAlevey, Chair  
Sen. William B. O'Gara  
Sen. Paul T. Davis*

*Rep. Edward J. Povich, Chair  
Rep. Michael W. Quint  
Rep. Charles E. Mitchell  
Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien  
Rep. Patricia A. Blanchette  
Rep. Stanley J. Gerzofsky  
Rep. Judith B. Peavey  
Rep. Edgar Wheeler  
Rep. James H. Tobin, Jr.  
Rep. Lois A. Snowe-Mello*

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**Maine State Legislature**  
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**120th Legislature**  
**First Regular Session**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**August 2001**

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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*  
*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*

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 21, 2001**.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

## Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice

**LD 956**

**An Act to End Internet Crime**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KASPRZAK DAVIS P	ONTP	

LD 956 proposed to create a civil remedy for a person who suffers any loss of money or property, real or personal, as a result of another person intentionally allowing or introducing a computer virus into any computer resource in violation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17-A, section 433, subsection 1, paragraph C. The bill proposed to allow a person who suffers damage because of the virus to bring an action either in the Superior Court or District Court for actual treble damages, restitution and for such other equitable relief. As proposed, a successful plaintiff in an action also would have been entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in connection with that action.

**LD 993**

**An Act to Expand the Number of Persons Who May Be Appointed Sheriff or Become a Candidate for Sheriff**

**ONTP**

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

LD 993 proposed to allow a person elected or appointed to the position of sheriff to meet the Maine Criminal Justice Academy training standards for that office within one year of election or appointment. As proposed, all other qualifications for the position of sheriff would remain unchanged. The bill also proposed to ensure that sheriffs have the same time allowances to achieve academy certification as other law enforcement officers and municipal police chiefs.

**LD 1017**

**An Act to Allow Compassionate Leave to State Prisoners**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1017 proposed to allow a prisoner compassionate leave to visit a dying relative, attend the funeral of a relative, obtain medical services not otherwise available or contact a prospective employer. The bill also proposed that if a prisoner did not return from the leave the prisoner would be guilty of escape.