

State Of Maine 121st Legislature

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

July 2003

Members:

Sen. Stephen S. Stanley, Chair Sen. Ethan Strimling Sen. Richard A. Nass

Rep. David G. Lemoine, Chair Rep. Joseph C. Perry Rep. Bernard E. McGowan Rep. Deborah L. Simpson Rep. Arthur L. Lerman Rep. Edward J. Suslovic Rep. Harold A. Clough Rep. Jonathan T. E. Courtney Rep. Earle L. McCormick Rep. Joshua A. Tardy

<u>Staff</u>: Julie S. Jones, Legislative Analyst

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Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

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Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint 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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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, <u>History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents</u>, 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 PURSUANT TO HP 1212	Bills carried over to the 2 nd Regular Session
CON RES XXX	
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE	Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCEOne	e 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
	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	
ONTP	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
OTP-ND	Committee report (hight To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law Joint Order passed in both bodies
PASSED	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED	Bill held by Governor
	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

David C. Elliott, Director Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

LD 1 An Act to Increase the Property Tax Exemption for Veterans **ONTP** Amendments Adopted Sponsor(s) Committee Report PINEAU ONTP LD 1 proposed to amend the law governing property tax exemptions for veterans by changing the amount to a fixed rate of \$10,000 and by eliminating just value as a basis for arriving at the amount of the exemption. See also LD 643. LD 16 An Act to Increase the Income Tax Deduction on Private, Public **ONTP** and Military Pensions from \$6,000 to \$10,000 Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted DAVIS, G ONTP LD 16 proposed to increase from \$6,000 to \$10,000 the amount of the state income tax deduction for income received from public, private and military pensions. LD 17 An Act to Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption From **ONTP** \$7,000 to \$20,000 Sponsor(s) Amendments Adopted Committee Report ONTP DAVIS, G DAVIS. P LD 17 proposed to increase the homestead property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$20,000. LD 22 An Act to Expand the Sales Tax **ONTP** Committee Report Amendments Adopted Sponsor(s) ONTP BULL LD 22 was a concept draft that proposed to eliminate some of the existing sales tax exemptions. The additional revenue would have been used to fund general purpose aid to local schools at the level of 55% of costs and property tax relief programs.