

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

121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

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

LD 208 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of CARRIED OVER Maine Related to the Taxation of Personal Property

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> LEMOINE	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted		
LD 208 proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to exempt business personal property from property tax as a general rule, but would permit municipalities to tax business personal property on the basis of just value or another basis authorized by the Legislature.				

LD 209	An Act to Increase the Tax on All Tobacco Products	ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SUSLOVIC	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	Amendments Adopted
STRIMLING		

LD 209 proposed to increase the tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products by 25% effective October 1, 2003.

LD 216An Act to Provide an Income Tax Deduction for a Qualified State-
sponsored 529 Plan for Higher Education ExpensesONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CLOUGH	ONTP	_
STANLEY		

LD 216 proposed an income tax deduction of up to \$10,000 per account for contributions made to any qualified state tuition program, including the Maine College Savings Program, that was eligible for preferred tax treatment under federal law.