

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Judiciary*

July 2003

Members:

Sen. Peggy A. Pendleton, Chair

Sen. Mary R. Cathcart

Sen. Chandler E. Woodcock

Rep. William S. Norbert, Chair

Rep. Thomas D. Bull

Rep. Deborah L. Simpson

Rep. Stan Gerzofsky

Rep. Philip R. Bennett, Jr.

Rep. Janet T. Mills

Rep. Roger L. Sherman

Rep. Roderick W. Carr

Rep. Brian M. Duprey

Rep. Joan Bryant-Deschenes

Rep. Donna M. Loring

Staff:

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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, 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).

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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i>	<i>Bills carried over to the 2nd Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

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 Judiciary

LD 452

An Act To Increase the Compensation of Jurors

DIED BETWEEN
BODIES

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODWIN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-142

LD 452 proposed to increase the mileage paid to jurors from 15¢ to 32¢ per mile, and increase the per diem paid to jurors from \$10 to \$55 over a 2-year period beginning July 1, 2004. The bill also proposed to require that payment for jurors come from fines, forfeitures, penalties and fees levied pursuant to a criminal or civil action and require the State Court Administrator to submit legislation implementing this payment requirement.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-142) was the majority report and it proposed to replace the bill. It proposed to increase juror compensation to 32¢ per mile and \$40 per day beginning July 1, 2005.

LD 490

An Act Concerning Citizens' Property Rights

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINS GILMAN	ONTP	

LD 490 proposed to require the State to reimburse a property owner for the reduction in value of property caused by a prohibition on rebuilding a structure damaged by fire, storm or other natural catastrophe. Compensation paid to a property owner must be based on the difference between the assessed value before the catastrophe and an appraised value after the catastrophe.

LD 515

An Act To Require Litigation Bonding

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DAIGLE KNEELAND	ONTP	

LD 515 was a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

LD 515 proposed to require an individual or organization that brings suit against a business or agricultural entity to post a bond if the court action has the effect of delaying or interrupting the business or agricultural activity, including plans to expand. This requirement would apply only if the business or agricultural entity had obtained the proper permits, was in compliance with local ordinances and state laws and was operating in a "best management practices" manner. If the business or agricultural entity prevailed in court, the bond would be used to provide restitution for legal fees, court costs and lost revenue caused by the delay.