

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Appropriations And Financial Affairs*

*July 2003*

**Members:**

*Sen. Mary R. Cathcart, Chair  
Sen. Margaret R. Rotundo  
Sen. Karl W. Turner*

*Rep. Joseph C. Brannigan, Chair  
Rep. Richard H. Mailhot  
Rep. Scott W. Cowger  
Rep. Benjamin F. Dudley  
Rep. Sean Faircloth  
Rep. Hannah Pingree  
Rep. Richard W. Rosen  
Rep. S. Peter Mills  
Rep. H. Sawin Millett, Jr.  
Rep. Julie Ann O'Brien*

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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](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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i> .....	<i>Bills carried over to the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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 APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

**LD 509**                                      **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine To Provide That the State Fund 100 Percent of Education  
for Students from Kindergarten to Postsecondary School**                                      **ONTP**

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

LD 509 that proposed to require that the State provide full funding of public education from kindergarten to postsecondary school.

**LD 534**                                      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of  
\$4,000,000 To Construct the Gulf of Maine Research Laboratory**                                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TURNER DUDLEY	ONTP	

LD 534 proposed to authorize a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$4,000,000, to be used to fund the design and construction of the Gulf of Maine Research Laboratory by the Gulf of Maine Aquarium to partner with the fishing community on marine research to protect and enhance the commercial fishery of the Gulf of Maine; to partner with the marine biotechnology industry to undertake marine biotechnology research; and to develop and make available an innovative marine sciences education hall focused on middle and secondary school students and the general public.

**LD 549**                                      **An Act To Restore Assistance to Low-income Families with  
Children Faced with High Housing Costs**                                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TREAT ADAMS	ONTP	

LD 549 proposed that if there were unexpended balances in funds appropriated to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program or to the Parents as Scholars Program at the end of fiscal years 2003 and 2004, those funds would be used to restore in fiscal years 2004 and 2005 the housing special need allowance received by families who receive TANF and Parents as Scholars, up to \$75 per month. The bill also proposed to restore the allowance to the amount that it was when it was first enacted in 1991.