

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*

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 APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

LD 740 **An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$8,200,000 for Use in Implementing the Maine Library of Geographic Information** **ONTP**

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

LD 740 proposed to authorize a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$8,200,000 to be used to implement the Maine Library of Geographic Information as established by Public Law 2001, chapter 649.

LD 749 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Control State Spending Based on Certain Guidelines** **ONTP**

| | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> ANDREWS LEMONT | | <u>Committee Report</u> ONTP | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 749 was a constitutional resolution that proposed to establish a ceiling on General Fund expenditures and require a 2/3 vote of the Legislature to approve General Fund expenditures that exceeded the rate of inflation plus the percentage change in state population in the prior calendar year.

LD 791 **An Act To Fully Fund Retirement Benefits for Game Wardens and Marine Patrol Officers** **CARRIED OVER**

| | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> DAGGETT MILLS, P | | <u>Committee Report</u> | | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|--|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|

LD 791 proposes to appropriate funds needed to fully fund the liability for the increased value of services rendered by game wardens and marine patrol officers between August 31, 1984 and September 1, 2002. In 2001, a special retirement plan was created for game wardens and marine patrol officers, but the liability to the retirement system created by the increased valued under the plan for service rendered prior to September 1, 2002 was not funded. The dollar amount provided in the bill was an estimate based on the amount that would have been required if the full payment had been made on July 1, 2002. The figure would need to be updated with an actuarially determined amount in order to fully fund the liability so that the increased benefits would become payable to game wardens and marine patrol officers.