

# State Of Maine 121st Legislature

## First Regular Session

### **Bill Summaries**

# Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

### July 2003

<u>Members</u>: Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon, Chair Sen. Kenneth F. Lemont Sen. Arthur F. Mayo III

> Rep. Joseph E. Clark, Chair Rep. John L. Patrick Rep. Patricia A. Blanchette Rep. Marilyn E. Canavan Rep. Rodney C. Jennings Rep. Roger A. Landry Rep. Gary W. Moore Rep. Kevin J. Glenn Rep. Richard B. Brown Rep. Randy E. Hotham

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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 <sup>nd</sup> 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 Legal and Veterans' Affairs

LD 877 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of ONTP Maine To Provide for the Resolution of Disputed Elections by the Supreme Judicial Court

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	
SHIELDS	ONTP	
BLAIS		

Amendments Adopted

LD 877, which was a constitutional resolution, proposed to require that, if 2/3 of the full membership of a body of the Legislature can not confirm the result of a disputed election of a member, the election result must be determined by the Supreme Judicial Court of the State.

LD 899 An Act To Provide an Alternative to Filing Nomination Petitions ONTP BY REQUEST ONTP

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedSAVAGEONTP

LD 899 proposed to allow candidates for State Senator and State Representative to obtain a nomination by paying a \$250 fee instead of by filing a nomination petition. The bill also proposed to require the \$250 nomination fee to be deposited in the Maine Clean Election Fund.

LD 901An Act To Update the Abandoned Property LawsPUBLIC 303

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedDAGGETTOTP-AMS-117

LD 901 proposed to extend application of the procedure for disposal of property that is abandoned by a tenant to property with a value of less than \$750.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-117)** proposed to make changes to the laws governing abandoned property to conform to changes made in the bill. The amendment also incorporated changes to the law enacted in Public Law 2003, chapter 20, in order to avoid a conflict.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2003, chapter 303 extends application of the statutory process governing the disposal by a landlord of property abandoned by a tenant with a value of less than \$500 to property with a value of less than \$750.