

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
121st Legislature*

*First Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Business, Research and Economic Development*

*July 2003*

**Members:**

*Sen. Lynn Bromley, Chair*

*Sen. Christopher G. L. Hall*

*Sen. Kevin L. Shorey*

*Rep. Nancy B. Sullivan, Chair*

*Rep. Lillian LaFontaine O'Brien*

*Rep. Guy J. Duprey, Jr.*

*Rep. Edward Pellon*

*Rep. Nancy E. Smith*

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*Rep. Robert A. Berube*

*Rep. Lawrence E. Jacobsen*

*Rep. Christopher Rector*

*Rep. William T. Rogers, Jr.*

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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 Business, Research and Economic Development*

Part H permits nurses who have passed the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.'s National Council's Learning Extension examination or who are licensed in a United States territory or a foreign jurisdiction and who have met all other requirements for licensure to practice nursing in this State for up to 90 days while awaiting the issuance of a social security number. In addition, Part H eliminates the requirement that an applicant for licensure as a registered professional nurse have a high school diploma or the equivalent since all applicants must have completed a course of study of not less than 2 years in an approved program in professional nursing and hold a degree, diploma or certificate from that program. Part H also makes additional technical changes to the laws governing nurses and nursing.

### **LD 1551**                      **An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors**                      **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COWGER BRENNAN		

LD 1551 proposes to create the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Act. The bill proposes to create the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Board, which would be responsible for licensing and regulation of home contractors and would be authorized to promulgate rules. The bill also proposes to prohibit certain acts as unfair trade practices and to provide penalties for violations, and to standardize contracts in the home construction industry. In addition, the bill proposed to adopt a state-wide building code.

### **LD 1554**                      **An Act Regarding Eligibility under the Municipal Investment Trust Fund**                      **PUBLIC 288 EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROMLEY	OTP-AM	S-149

LD 1554 proposed to make service center communities eligible for grants or loans under the Municipal Investment Trust Fund. It also proposed to add that grants or loans may be used for downtown improvement projects and to remove some of the program requirements for eligibility for a downtown improvement program.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-149)** proposed to add an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

#### ***Enacted Law Summary***

Public Law 2003, chapter 288 makes service center communities eligible for grants or loans under the Municipal Investment Trust Fund. It also allows grants or loans to be used for downtown improvement projects and removes some prior program requirements for eligibility for a downtown improvement program.

Public Law 2003, chapter 288 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2003.