

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

*First Regular Session and
First Special Session*

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Legal and Veterans' Affairs*

August 2005

Staff:

*Danielle D. Fox, Legislative Analyst
Curtis Bentley, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

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Maine State Legislature

OFFICE OF POLICY & LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Room 215 Cross State Office Building
Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

122nd Legislature
First Regular Session and First Special Session

Summary of Legislation Considered by the Joint Standing Committees
August 2005

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 organized by committees 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. A subject index for each committee is included immediately before the bill summaries for that committee, and a numerical index by LD number is included 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:

- CARRIED OVER Bill Carried Over to Second Regular Session
CON RES XXX..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES..... House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... One 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
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT..... 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..... Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP ND..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OTP ND/NT..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED..... Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 29, 2005; and for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special Session is September 17, 2005.

Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs

Resolve 2005, chapter 19 directs the Secretary of State to convene a stakeholders group to develop for the State certain voting systems standards required by the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, Section 301. The stakeholders group consists of 6 members of the public with experience with elections and election recounts appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. A report of the stakeholder group including suggested legislation was due to the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans' Affairs and was enacted as an amendment to LD 1266 during the First Special Session of the 122nd Legislature (see Public Law 2005, chapter 404).

Resolve 2005, chapter 19 was finally passed as an emergency measure and took effect May 13, 2005.

LD 109 **An Act To Require That Accelerated Campaign Finance Reports Be Completed by Both Clean Election and Nonparticipating Candidates** **ONTP**

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

LD 109 proposed to require all Maine Clean Election Act candidates, to file campaign finance reports in accordance with the accelerated reporting schedule.

LD 147 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Revoke the Voting Privileges of Persons Convicted of Certain Crimes** **ONTP**

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

LD 147 proposed an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to revoke the right of a person convicted of murder or a Class A, B or C crime to vote.