

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
Appropriations and Financial Affairs*

August 2005

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Maine State Legislature

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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 Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 292 **An Act To Establish a New Method of Determining the State Budget** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JOY		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 292 proposed to shift the start of the fiscal biennium for the state budget from the first regular session of the Legislature to the second regular session of the Legislature, beginning for the fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2008. This bill also proposed that the state budget beginning on July 1, 2007 would be a one-year budget.

This bill was carried over by H.P. 1203 to any special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.

LD 392 **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Purchase a Train for Passenger Rail Service** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARLEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 392 proposed a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000, to be used to purchase a train to supply passenger rail service.

LD 404 **An Act To Ensure the State's Continued Commitment to Former Students Who Were Physically or Sexually Abused at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf or the Maine School for the Deaf** **CARRIED OVER**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> EDMONDS BLISS		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 404 proposed to include a General Fund appropriation to the Baxter Compensation Authority to provide cash awards to former students of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf or the Maine School for the Deaf who were found to have suffered physical or sexual abuse.

This bill was carried over by H.P. 1203 to any special or regular session of the 122nd Legislature.