

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
State and Local Government*

July 2006

Members:

*Sen. Elizabeth M. Schneider, Chair
Sen. Margaret Rotundo
Sen. Mary Black Andrews*

*Rep. Christopher R. Barstow, Chair
Rep. Richard D. Blanchard
Rep. Charles William Harlow
Rep. James M. Schatz
Rep. Robert H. Crosthwaite
Rep. George R. Bishop, Jr.
Rep. Howard E. McFadden
Rep. Bradley S. Moulton
Rep. Roberta M. Muse
Rep. William P. Browne*

Staff:

Anna T. Broome, Legislative Analyst

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

Maine State Legislature



Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

122nd Maine Legislature Second 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 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/billsumm.htm).

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:

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
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX.....	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED (Pocket Veto).....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

LD 631 **An Act To Establish a Maine Law Sunset Review Committee** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CROSTHWAITE DAVIS P	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 631 proposed to create a process for a review of the Maine Revised Statutes to eliminate obsolete and outdated statutes. Each Legislature would establish a joint standing or joint select committee with the duty to review the Maine Revised Statutes and report at the beginning of the second regular session a summary of the committee's work and any recommended legislation. The committee would meet during legislative sessions and in the interim as authorized by the presiding officers. The Legislative Council would provide staffing assistance.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-738) proposed to incorporate a fiscal note.

LD 798 **An Act To Establish a Sunset on New State Agencies and Programs** **ONTP**

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

LD 798 proposed to establish an automatic sunset on all new agencies or programs established or funded beginning January 1, 2006 unless the agency or program is extended through legislative action prior to the date of sunset.

LD 889 **Resolve, Directing the Intergovernmental Advisory Commission To Establish a Working Group To Develop a County Government Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund** **RESOLVE 133**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WESTON	OTP-AM	S-449

LD 889 proposed to establish the County Government Capital Improvements Revolving Loan Fund.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-449) proposed to direct the Intergovernmental Advisory Commission to establish a working group to examine the feasibility of, and develop an appropriate design for, a county government capital improvements revolving loan fund that would make available financial assistance to counties for construction and repair projects. The working group must include representatives from associations of county commissioners, registers of deeds, sheriffs, jail administrators and municipal officers as well as the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. The working group would report its findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters by February 15, 2007.

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 133 directs the Intergovernmental Advisory Commission to establish a working group to examine the feasibility of, and develop an appropriate design for, a county government capital improvements revolving loan fund that would make available financial assistance to counties for construction and repair projects. The working group must include representatives from associations of county commissioners, registers of deeds, sheriffs, jail administrators and municipal officers as well as the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. The working group shall report its findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters by February 15, 2007.

LD 925 **An Act To Fairly Apportion the Cost of Sheriff Patrol Services** **ONTP**

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

LD 925 proposed to require county commissioners to calculate the budgeted cost of noncontracted sheriff patrol services in proportion to which those services are provided to municipalities and unorganized territories in the county. The bill also proposed to require that the routine provision of sheriff patrol services be subject to the terms of a contract with the municipality receiving these services.

LD 1003 **An Act To Establish the Androscoggin County Budget Advisory Committee and the Somerset County Budget Advisory Committee** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SNOWE-MELLO		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
----------------------------------	--	---------------------------------	--	---------------------------

LD 1003 proposed to repeal the existing process of adoption of a budget in Androscoggin County and in Somerset County and proposed to establish the Androscoggin County Budget Advisory Committee and the Somerset County Budget Advisory Committee.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-295) proposed to amend the dates to reflect the fiscal year beginning on January 1st. It proposed to reconvene the apportionment commission that conducted the apportionment in 2003 to reapportion Androscoggin County Commissioner Districts from 3 districts to 5 districts. The first election held in the new districts would be the statewide election on November 2006. The current Androscoggin County budget committee would be repealed September 15, 2007 and the Androscoggin County Budget Advisory Committee would take effect on the same day. The amendment also proposed to remove Somerset County from the bill so that the bill only affects Androscoggin County.

This bill was initially reported out with a majority OTP-A committee report. It was then recommitted to committee and subsequently reported out with a unanimous ONTP report.