

# 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](http://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 1127**

**Resolve, Directing State Agencies To Assist and Facilitate any Governmental Units Wishing To Work Cooperatively**

**RESOLVE 130**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ANDREWS BARSTOW	OTP-AM	S-434

LD 1127 proposed to require the Executive Department, State Planning Office, working with state and local government and education officials, to develop a municipal service district pilot project. Following a competitive process to determine the participating municipalities, the State Planning Office would continue to provide technical assistance, as well as grants, incentives and direct financial assistance to the municipalities participating in the pilot project. The bill proposed a timeline for the development and submission of projects and for the design and implementation of the municipal service districts. Funding would be provided through the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Local and Regional Services and a separate appropriation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-434)** proposed to direct each state agency to establish a process by which municipalities that are involved in the joint provision of services with other units of government may fulfill statutory filing requirements by filing jointly with those units. The amendment proposed to require state agencies to report on the progress and the status of changes to the Executive Department, State Planning Office by November 30, 2006. The State Planning Office would report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 2005, chapter 130 directs each state agency to establish a process by which municipalities that are involved in the joint provision of services with other units of government may fulfill statutory filing requirements by filing jointly with those units. State agencies must report on the progress and the status of changes to the Executive Department, State Planning Office by November 30, 2006. The State Planning Office shall report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters.

**LD 1230**

**An Act To Facilitate and Promote Regional Cooperation**

**ONTP**

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

LD 1230 proposed to address regional cooperation issues. The bill proposed to make real or personal property used for providing regional services to 2 or more municipalities exempt from property taxation. It proposed to allow municipalities to enter into cooperative arrangements for transit, solid waste, household hazardous waste, economic development, code enforcement and joint purchasing activities and would clarify that these endeavors are cooperative regional government activities. The bill also proposed to clarify that staff providing joint services are municipal officials. It proposed to grant to regional planning commissions the powers of a regional council. In addition, the minutes of commission meetings would be provided on request or posted on a website, rather than mailed to every member of the planning board and all municipal officials, in order to save on printing and mailing costs.