

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
State and Local Government*

August 2005

Members:

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

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

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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 State and Local Government

LD 1204

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Farmington Village Corporation

P & S 15

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> WOODCOCK		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-158
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LD 1204 proposed to amend the charter of the Farmington Village Corporation by giving the corporation authority to take water in the Town of Farmington and to establish rates and repeals the section of the charter that limits the situations in which the corporation may lease its property. The bill also proposed to allow the authority to establish rates retroactive to 1911, which is the date of the corporation's new charter.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-158) proposed to strike out all the language dealing with financial assistance between Farmington Village Corporation and the municipality in order to mirror the language of a standard water district charter.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 15 amends the charter of the Farmington Village Corporation by giving the corporation authority to take water in the Town of Farmington and to establish rates and repeals the section of the charter that limits the situations in which the corporation may lease its property. The bill also makes the authority to establish rates retroactive to 1911, which is the date of the corporation's new charter.

LD 1230

An Act To Facilitate and Promote Regional Cooperation

CARRIED OVER

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SHIELDS CLUKEY		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1230 proposes to address regional cooperation issues. It makes real or personal property used for providing regional services to 2 or more municipalities exempt from property taxation. It allows municipalities to enter into cooperative arrangements for transit, solid waste, household hazardous waste, economic development and code enforcement activities and joint purchasing and clarifies that these endeavors are cooperative regional government activities. It clarifies that staff providing joint services are municipal officials. The bill proposes to grant to regional planning commissions the powers of a regional council. In addition, it requires the minutes of commission meetings to 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.

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