

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

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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 Legal and Veterans' Affairs

LD 1227 **An Act To Fund Pesticide Education in the State** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BLANCHARD SNOWE-MELLO	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1227 proposed to direct the State Liquor and Lottery Commission to initiate a pesticide education lottery game designed to raise funds for the Maine Pesticide Education Fund. Money in the fund would be distributed to the Integrated Pest Management Fund, the Board of Pesticides Control for pesticide education and pick-up programs and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension for pest management education programs.

LD 1239 **An Act To Promote Clean Elections in Maine** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GLYNN	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1239 proposed allowing State Senators and State Representatives to run for leadership positions in the Legislature as Maine Clean Election Act candidates. The candidate would already have to be certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate for the general election and file a letter of intent with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices after certification for the general election to become certified as a candidate for a leadership position. A certified candidate for a leadership position in the Legislature would receive \$1,000 for a candidate for State Senator and \$3,000 for a candidate for State Representative. A Maine Clean Election Act candidate who receives funds to campaign for a leadership position would not be able to accept or expend any other funds for that election. This bill proposed to prohibit a Maine Clean Election Act candidate for State Senator or State Representative from serving as an officer or having control over a political action committee that contributes to a campaign in the State. This bill also proposed to require candidates for leadership positions to register with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices within 3 days of becoming a candidate for the leadership position and to submit reports to the commission as required by rules adopted by the commission.

LD 1257 **Resolve, Authorizing Dominic LaJoie To Sue the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARTIN SMITH W	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1257 proposed to authorize Dominic LaJoie to bring a civil action against the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for damages in connection with actions taken by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. This resolve proposed to direct the Attorney General and the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to conduct settlement negotiations to resolve the dispute to the extent possible.