

# 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  
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*

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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 1354**                      **An Act To Amend the Procedure for Auditing Municipalities**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KAELIN WESTON	ONTP	

LD 1354 proposed to allow the State Auditor to investigate the accounting and auditing system of a municipality only if requested to do so by the governing body of that municipality.

**LD 1357**                      **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine To Provide for the Popular Election of the Constitutional  
Officers and the State Auditor**                      **ONTP**

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

LD 1357 proposed to provide for direct popular election of the State's constitutional officers and the State Auditor to 4-year terms beginning in 2006. A vacancy in the office would be filled by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Legislature, but only until the next general election. If the next general election is not one at which the office was scheduled to be filled, then an election must be held to fill the vacancy for the balance of the regular 4-year term.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-334)** proposed to incorporate a fiscal note.

**LD 1366**                      **An Act To Give Preference to Companies That Provide Livable  
Wages and Health Insurance to Their Employees**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LERMAN SCHNEIDER	ONTP	

LD 1366 proposed to require that companies that provide livable wages and health insurance to their employees receive preference in bidding on state contracts.