

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Labor*

July 2006

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Members:

*Sen. Ethan Strimling, Chair
Sen. Philip L. Bartlett, II
Sen. Lois A. Snowe-Mello*

*Rep. William J. Smith, Chair
Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.
Rep. Deborah J. Hutton
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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 Labor

LD 2023

An Act To Implement Recommendations of the Study Commission Regarding Liveable Wages Concerning the Definition of a Liveable Wage

ONTP

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

LD 2023, a recommendation of the Study Commission Regarding Liveable Wages, proposed that the Department of Labor annually calculate the liveable wage for various household sizes using the methodology of the Maine Center for Economic Policy and report the liveable wage calculations to the Legislature. The bill also would define “liveable wage.”

Committee Amendment “A” (H-939), the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, proposed to require the Department of Labor to report liveable wages calculations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters. The amendment also would add an appropriations and allocations section. This amendment was not adopted.

LD 2032

Resolve, To Implement Recommendations of the Study Commission Regarding Liveable Wages Concerning Plans To Increase Wages to Maine Workers

ONTP

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

LD 2032, a resolve recommended by the Study Commission Regarding Liveable Wages, proposed that the Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education, develop plans to increase wages to workers in Maine. It also would require the Department of Labor to submit annual progress reports on the plans to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-987), the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, proposed to add the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Employee Relations to the list of state offices with whom the Department of Labor is required to consult in developing plans to increase wages. The amendment also would add an appropriations and allocations section. This amendment was not adopted.