

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

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State Government Committee

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949

AN ACT CONCERNING PROCESSING FEES Lewis LV/WD
FOR LOAN APPLICATIONS FILED WITH THE
MAINE GUARANTEE AUTHORITY

SUMMARY: ID 949 proposed to substantially limit service and application fees charged to applicants for processing of loan and mortgage insurance requests by the Maine Guarantee Authority. Any applicant denied assistance would be reimbursed for the application fees paid to the MGA.

The intent of the bill was to encourage small businesses and other businesses with limited resources but good potential to use the Maine Guarantee Authority. In addition, the Municipal Securities Approval Program, on the surface did not warrant substantial service fees to the MGA, since much of the analysis was done at the municipal level.

The Committee did not believe that the application and service fees charged to small businesses are too onerous. The service fees charged by the SBA are much greater.

950 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LEAST McGowan LV/WD
COST PRINCIPLE

SUMMARY: ID 950 proposed that state agencies which undertake with state employees repairs, improvements or construction projects costing in excess of \$25,000, be required to follow the "least-cost" principle. The cost of these projects would be listed and filed with the Commissioner of Finance & Administration.

Presently, the Bureau of Public Improvements oversees and approves any project costing \$1,000 or more. Between 1980 and 1983 only 1 project exceeding \$25,000 was undertaken by state crews (excludes highways). Between July 1, 1982 and March 18, 1983, 250 contracts had been awarded to private contractors. Of all of those contracts, 5 exceeded \$25,000. Thus, many projects costing less than \$25,000 are awarded to private firms.

978 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE ADMINISTRA- Baldacci ENACT. PL 351
TION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

SUMMARY: ID 978 proposed to extend the administrative authority over the unemployment security law to the Commissioner of Labor and to define the Unemployment Security Commission (title changed to Unemployment Compensation Commission) strictly as an adjudicatory body to hear cases appealed from the Bureau of Employment Security. The Committee differentiated the roles of the Commission and Commissioner to prohibit the Commissioner from adopting rules with respect to the Unemployment Security Law. In addition, the Commissioner of Labor in the final engrossed version, is empowered with jurisdiction over the Special Administrative Expense Fund and to serve as party-defendant in appeal cases.