

STATE OF MAINE

**

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

STATE GOVERNMENT

BILL SUMMARY



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1372 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE TOURISM PRO- Clark, N. MOTION PROGRAM

SUMMARY: ID 1372 proposed to develop a division of tourism within the State Department Office which would "contract-out" or undertake more substantive tourist promotion activities that presently exists. The State Development Office, with assistance from the Maine Vacation Travel Commission (17 voting members) would provide technical assistance to the tourist industry, develop a comprehensive tourist development program, and administer the Travel Promotion Matching fund. this fund would be distributed in the form of grants to be matched in equal amounts by recipients to private non-profit tourist promotion organizations, including municipalities, to promote tourism.

The State Development Office intended to provide \$300,000 of matching funds, \$400,000 for advertising, \$250,000 for response materials, and \$42,000 for public relations. In addition, \$250,000 would be allocated for 7 positions in the Division of Tourism.

1397 AN ACT TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN THE Paradis, P. ENACT. PL 321 MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITIES LAW

SUMMARY: ID 1397 proposed to remove the requirement the MSHA or any other housing authority obtain the consent of the local authority to operate in the local area for urban renewal purposes. The bill also proposed to grant the same status to the MSHA as enjoyed by state agencies with respect to the Tort Claims Act. In addition, the bill proposed to change the hearing procedure with respect to rules pertaining to qualifications of borrowers, construction loans, etc..

1402 AN ACT TO CLARIFY CONFLICT OF IN- Masterton ONTP TEREST FOR STATE BOARDS AND COM-MISSIONS

SUMMARY: ID 1402 proposed to "relax" the conflict-of-interest provisions that presently governs the appointment of members to boards, commissions, etc.. The purpose of the bill was to enable qualified people to be more easily appointed to these types of organizations and not be in jeopardy of a conflict-of-interest. The bill would authorize any member of a board to contract with the State through the Department of Finance and Administration and to vote on any issue before that particular commission or board as long as the member did not have an interest in that issue.